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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-93-071
Thursday
15 April 1993

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-93-071* *15 April 1993*

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Prime Minister Opens Arab Financial Meeting

*JN1404163093 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpts] Under President Hafiz al-Asad's patronage, the joint annual meetings of Arab financial bodies opened at the conference hall of Iblah al-Sham Hotel today. Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi represented the president at the opening ceremony, which was also attended by Rashid Akhtarini, deputy prime minister for services affairs; Dr. Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; government ministers; the ministers of finance, economy, and planning of fraternal Arab countries; Arab ambassadors; and a number of honored guests.

Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi delivered President Hafiz al-Asad's speech in which he conveyed the president's greetings and good wishes for the conference participants. He also referred to President Hafiz al-Asad's interest in these meetings and their expected outcome, which should achieve broader interaction between the potential and goals of Arab financial bodies, on the one hand, and the growing development needs of our Arab countries on the other. [passage omitted]

Referring to the dangers threatening the Arab nation, the prime minister said that developments and blocks forming in the advanced world give us no choice, as Arabs, and that we have to launch new initiatives based on economic and financial cooperation, because such integration constitutes a strong and impregnable basis for a political, social, and cultural structure. [passage omitted]

The prime minister then referred to the relationship of politics with economics and development, and affirmed that the most important pan-Arab issue facing the Arabs in this age is the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is wasting considerable energies. This, he added, affects various political, economic, financial, cultural, and defense areas and requires that Arabs, in terms of regional and international factors and pan-Arab needs, adhere to solidarity and cooperation and enhance their unified Arab position.

The president's representative also stressed that the Arab-Israeli conflict, which began at the beginning of the second half of this century, witnessed many wars as a result of Israel's aggressive nature and the ways it tries to achieve expansion by occupying Arab territory and carrying out settlement projects. He also referred to the obstacles Israel is placing in the path of peace, and stressed that neither Syria nor the Arabs spared any effort to show their eagerness to achieve peace—real and comprehensive peace based on right; justice; the implementation of UN resolutions, particularly all the provisions of Resolutions 242 and 338 on all fronts; and the implementation of Security Council Resolution 425 calling for withdrawal from occupied Lebanese territory.

Al-Zu'bi also said that the international community, which is eager to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in this region, has begun to see the real dimensions of the region's problems and is also viewing Israel's policy of stepping up repression and persecution, its violation of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, and its refusal to comply with Security Council Resolution 799 compelling it to take back all the Palestinian deportees as evidence of its unserious pursuit of peace. This Israeli policy, he said, can be confronted only by reinforcing the unified Arab position, which will guarantee Arab rights and enhance efforts to realize a just and comprehensive peace in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy, as supported by the entire world. [passage omitted]

## Palestinian Affairs

### Abu-Sharif Says Palestinians To Attend Peace Talks

*NC1404190093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat, has stressed that the Palestinians will participate in the upcoming round of bilateral negotiations with Israel scheduled to convene in Washington on 20 April. In a press statement, he said the consultations the Palestinians are holding with the United States demonstrate that the Palestinians are doing all they can to overcome the obstacles impeding the resumption of the talks. He noted that the deportees issue does not constitute an obstacle to the negotiations.

### Talks Begin With U.S. Officials in Washington

*JN1504075793 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] Talks which began yesterday between a Palestinian delegation and officials from the U.S. State Department will resume in Washington today. These talks are aimed at removing obstacles facing the resumption of the bilateral Arab-Israeli talks. So far, no details have been announced on the results of yesterday's talks and on the level of progress achieved. More in this report.

Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation which held talks at the U.S. State Department last night, did not give any details about the results of the talks. Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi told reporters that talks dealt with problems facing the peace process. However, he added, the talks did not end and it is likely that a session of talks will be held today, Thursday. He hoped he would have something new to say today. This extension in the schedule of these meetings was not expected.

The U.S.-Palestinian meeting comes as part of preliminary consultations among participants in the peace process and the U.S. Government to prepare for the ninth round to be held on 20 April.

Palestinian delegation spokeswoman Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi said that talks with Edward Djerejian, assistant U.S.

secretary of state, dealt with the bases of the negotiations which began in October 1991 and the U.S. role in these negotiations. In this regard, the U.S. Department of State issued a statement last night saying that during all these consultations, the U.S. side explained its concept of the role of a full partner and that it will assume a more effective role as an honest broker. At the same time, Djerejian expressed his belief that direct negotiations are the best means of discussion.

In another development, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi has said that the talks dealt with the U.S. proposal to keep the peace negotiations open rather than holding them in rounds. The Arab parties are expected to provide a final answer regarding their participation in the next round of talks during their foreign ministerial meeting in Damascus tomorrow, Friday. The Palestinian delegation is demanding guarantees in terms of respect for their political demands, especially what is entailed in the transitional period in the occupied territories.

The U.S. Government promised to announce what it described as good news upon the resumption of talks in Washington, saying it is convinced that this pledge will overcome the Palestinians' reluctance to attend.

These talks in Washington coincide with yesterday's talks between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. These talks focused on the regional peace process and means to resume this process. [passage omitted]

## Officials View Delegation's Return to Peace Talks

*TA1404153393 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Apr 93 pp 1, 11*

[By 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Arna'ut]

[Excerpt] Jerusalem—Two Palestinian personalities close to the Palestinian negotiating delegation alluded to the possibility of the Palestinian delegation's return to the upcoming round of talks, scheduled for 20 April in Washington. They stressed that a final decision on whether to return to the peace talks will be made at the meeting of foreign ministers of Arab sates participating in the peace process. This meeting is expected to be convened in Damascus within the next few days.

Dr. Sari Nusaybah, head of the Palestinian technical teams and committees, said: In my personal view, there is no need to justify a return to the talks; rather, the one who does not want to return to the talks has to justify this.

At a Jerusalem meeting that included many representatives of national institutions, Zahirah Kamal, member of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, said: We are not making the choice of participation now. That choice was made when we went to Madrid.

Nusaybah emphasized that the decision must not be that of not going to the talks but removing the obstacles in order to go. He referred to the Palestinian leadership's moves to resolve pending problems through direct contacts with the United States and Arab countries and through indirect contacts with Israel. According to Nusaybah, those contacts led to developments and achievements, most prominent of which is al-Husayni's inclusion in the Palestinian negotiating delegation. Nusaybah said: We must admit that al- Husayni's inclusion in the Palestinian delegation is a very important achievement, which we had hoped would be realized a long time ago.

Nusaybah added: The United Nations has become a full and active partner in the multilateral talks. This is a positive development worth considering. The same is true of diaspora Palestinians who have gradually began participating in the multilateral talks. Those are things that were rejected at the beginning of the process in Madrid.

Zahirah Kamal noted that achievements are being made and said: Al-Husayni's inclusion in the delegation means that Jerusalem has actually begun participating in the talks. She added: At the outset, the United States was a spectator and did not endeavor to advance the peace process. Now, however, it has begun talking about becoming a full partner in the negotiations. This means that it will listen to the viewpoints of the parties taking part in the peace process and will work to bring those viewpoints closer and crystallize them.

Kamal noted that the United States has pledged to abide by the letter of assurances and invitation and strive to make Resolutions 242 and 338 the terms of reference of the whole negotiations. She said: This means that the transitional stage is not the final one.

Kamal added: The Israeli position on human rights has been discussed with the United States and will be discussed once again in detail during the upcoming meeting in Washington.

Nusaybah expressed the belief that the Palestinian leadership's moves on three fronts—the issues of representation, the substance of negotiations, and human rights—have achieved some success and enable the Palestinian delegation to return and continue the talks. Nusaybah said: Other achievements have yet to be realized, but that can also be managed through a tripartite agreement between the United States, Israel, and the Palestinians. [passage omitted]

## Rabin Partial Withdrawal Offer Said 'Not Enough'

*NC1504055393 Paris AFP in English 2156 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] Cairo, April 14 (AFP)—A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation official said Wednesday that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's offer of a partial Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories was not enough.

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"if Mr. Rabin means he is ready for a quasi-total withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967, that means progress," Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat, told AFP.

"But that is not enough," he said, stressing that U.N. Security Council [Resolution] 242 had to be applied to all stages of the negotiations.

"Mr. Rabin must accept the application of 242 to all stages of the negotiations as well as the principle of total peace against a total withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967." [passage omitted]

### Editorial Views U.S. Promises in Peace Talks

*PM1404103793 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 10/11 Apr 93 p11*

[Editorial: "The American Promises to the Palestinians"]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Edward Djerejian has promised the Palestinians a "major plan" if they abandon their rejection of the invitation to the negotiations and go to Washington on 20 April with the rest of the Arab delegations.

The strange thing is that Djerejian used the language of riddles and refused to give details of that "major plan." That is not the approach usually used by such superpowers as the United States, which he represents. He just said that everything would become clear as soon as the Palestinians sit at the negotiating table.

It is difficult for us to understand this American language of riddles and ambiguity. What the Palestinians want from the United States and Israel is crystal clear. Some obstacles stand in the way of their return to the negotiating table. The most important obstacle is Israel's violation of Palestinian human rights. That, among other things, includes the deportations and the exclusion of Jerusalem, as occupied territory, from the agenda. Washington is required to clarify its position on these matters to reassure the Palestinian delegation about the course of the negotiations and about U.S. intentions.

The way Washington talks about that "major plan" and the ambiguity in which it shrouds its words and offers indicate that a "trap" has been laid for the Palestinians to get them to participate in the negotiating process.

In other words, the current and sole U.S.-Israeli objective is to drag the Palestinians to the ninth round of negotiations and to "facilitate" the participation of the other Arab delegations. What would happen after that does not seem to matter. Neither the U.S. secretary of state nor his President Clinton have come up with anything new that would indicate U.S. willingness to respond to Palestinian demands.

Therefore, the Palestinian caution about deciding to return to the negotiating table is legitimate and justified because a decision to go to the negotiations against a background of U.S. support for Israeli demands and policies would be very risky. A decision not to go would also be risky.

Palestinian participation in the negotiations without a clear Israeli commitment to stop deportations, repatriate the deportees, and put Jerusalem on the agenda could lead to negative attitudes in the occupied territory towards the entire negotiating process, particularly if Israel maintains its present position and the United States continues to support that position. Not going would carry some risks too such as, for instance, the starvation and political blockade imposed by Washington and its Arab allies on the Palestinian people in the occupied territory and abroad. That has already resulted in the closure of many Palestinian institutions in the occupied territory, such as universities and some publications.

The most dangerous prospect the Palestinians would face if they went to Washington without real guarantees of progress in the negotiations would be the use of their participation, even in one round, as a cover for peddling separate peace agreements. Perhaps that explains the U.S. insistence on and the Arab pressure for such participation.

It is a difficult decision, but the Palestinian leadership is used to making such decision. That is why it was able to overcome crises in the past. It will certainly make the right decision reflecting the Palestinian people's aspiration to a just settlement based on UN resolutions.

## Reportage, Comments on Mubarak-Rabin Meeting

### Mubarak Delivers Palestinians' Message

*JN1504081893 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Apr 93 pp 1, 24*

[By Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak deliverd a message from the Palestinian leadership to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin during their meeting in Ismailia yesterday.

Palestinian sources in Amman said that the message contains a Palestinian agreement, in principle, to attend the ninth round of negotiations scheduled to be held in Washington on 20 April. However, the final stand will be officially and collectively announced at the foreign ministerial meeting of the Arab cordon states, which will begin in Damascus on 16 April and last for two days.

The U.S. State Department has stipulated that the Palestinians should agree, in principle, to participate in the next round of negotiations before the U.S. Administration agrees on the six points presented by the Palestinian side. Four of the six points concern Israel while the other two concern the U.S. side.

The Palestinian sources told AL-DUSTUR that the message contains a list of 30 to 50 names of deportees who were deported between 1967 and 1987. These sources said that the concerned Israeli quarters will scrutinize these names in order to present an opinion that would pave the way for the return of those deportees after the resumption of the negotiations.

The most prominent figures expected to be allowed to return are: His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih (the first deportee), Dr. Hanna Nasir, Akram Haniyah, Dr. 'Azmi al-Shu'aybi, Marwan Barghuthi, Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Haj Ahmad, Lawyer Ibrahim Bakr, Sulayman al- Najjab, 'Arabi 'Awwad, Alfred Tubasi, 'Abd-al-Jawad Salih, 'Abd-al- 'Aziz Shahin, and Hasan 'Abd-al-Jawad.

The sources revealed that factions opposing negotiations with Israel presented name lists of their cadres who had been deported. The sources added that the views of a large number of deportees were sounded out before their names were included in the first list and that these deportees agreed to return as soon as procedures were completed.

### 'Urayqat on Meeting

*NC1504074293 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Telephone interview with Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, deputy chairman of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, in Jerusalem, by Fawzi al-Jundi, in Cairo, within the "Dialogue From Afar" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Jundi] We start this dialogue by asking for your view of the outcome of President Husni Mubarak's talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, especially on the issues of the Palestinian deportees and the holding of the ninth round of the negotiations.

['Urayqat] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Everyone knows that Egyptian diplomacy has been intensively and sincerely active for some months to overcome the obstacles placed by Rabin's government before the resumption of the peace process. We followed President Mubarak's tour of Europe and the United States and his meeting with the U.S. President. We then followed Egypt's efforts during President Mubarak's talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. We, as Arab parties, stressed from the start that we do not need any party to convince us of the usefulness of the peace process. It is our territories that are occupied and our people who are suffering. Consequently, there is an Arab commitment that was underlined in Damascus at the recent meeting held by the cordon states foreign ministers, the Arab commitment to the peace option based on international legitimacy.

But the issue now is an insurmountable obstacle placed by Rabin before the Arab negotiator which, to this moment, is preventing the latter from going to the negotiating table. Undoubtedly, there was a common and clear concept of the requisites for removing the obstacles during President Mubarak's talks with Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo the day before yesterday. At a time when Rabin is talking about the peace process and the need for it, he is turning the occupied Palestinian territories into a large prison for two million Palestinians, preventing the faithful from reaching the churches and the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, depriving 120,000 workers of their daily livelihood, and violating human rights in a way unprecedented since 1967. While the Arab objectives, intentions, and commitment to the peace process remain firm, we fully realize that the Israeli Government's real practices do not reflect a desire to remove the obstacles or to prepare the appropriate climate for the resumption of the ninth round so that we can go back to our people carrying something that proves to them that the peace process is continuing and succeeding.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. 'Urayqat, allow me to ask a specific and direct question. On the basis of and in light of the recent talks between President Mubarak and Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat and President Mubarak's meeting with Rabin, can we unambiguously say that the Palestinian delegation will in fact participate in the ninth round?

['Urayqat] We can't say so now. Quite frankly and sincerely, we are facing obstacles that we cannot ignore. Rabin alone has the ability to remove these obstacles at this fateful moment. Of course, we do not know what went on in President Mubarak's meeting with Rabin. We do not know all the details. But we hope that President Mubarak has obtained from Rabin measures that will remove the obstacles.

[Al-Jundi] But what do you say about statements made by Faysal al-Husayni, coordinator of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, when he noted that the Palestinians have abandoned their condition that all the deportees should be returned before the negotiations are resumed?

['Urayqat] With regard to this particular point, it should be clear to everyone that Faysal and we have been saying from the start that Resolution 799 does not mean specific numbers or cases. This resolution is based on the illegality of deportation. Hence, we have said from the start that we want an official and decisive Israeli pledge that Tel Aviv will not resort to the policy of deportation in the future. This is the basis. We have also said that the Israeli Government should comply with Resolution 799. I have followed brother Faysal's statements and was in direct contact with him in Cairo yesterday. It is very clear that what brother Faysal was talking about was the need to obtain an Israeli pledge not to resort to deportation in the future and therefore to allow those deported since 1967 to return and to speed up the return of the deportees in Marj al-Zuhur.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. 'Urayqat, if the other Arab parties involved in the negotiations announce at their next meeting in Damascus on Friday and Saturday [16-17 April] their agreement to attend the ninth round, will you maintain your stand of boycotting this round?

['Urayqat] First, let me say very frankly that we as Arab parties—the cordon states—entered into the peace process to achieve a comprehensive peace. There is no possibility that any Arab party will conclude a unilateral deal. I am confident that the Damascus meeting will end with a joint stand that will underline our commitment to the peace process based on international legitimacy. But, very frankly too, we don't decide alone. There are Arab parties that will decide with us. However, the participating Arab countries realize that the obstacles are stronger than our ability to overcome them. Hence, the Arabs will go together or else they will not go. If the Palestinians cannot go, then I do not believe that there will be any Arab participation in the ninth round.

[Al-Jundi] In a dialogue we held yesterday with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni, he said that the ninth round should be an open one so as to reach tangible points toward reaching an agreement between the parties. How do you view the Egyptian ambassador's proposal?

['Urayqat] I believe this is a practical proposal but I add that the timetable does not decide the seriousness of the negotiations. What is proposed at the negotiating table decides how serious any negotiations are. If the Israeli delegation comes to the negotiating table and make proposals that are in line with the peace process principles, international legitimacy, and the cosponsors' letters and assurances, then I believe that we can achieve progress. But if the Israeli negotiator returns and attempts to dictate to us instead of negotiating, then I do not believe that time will be a factor at this stage. Regarding Egypt, we believe that Egypt is an Arab partner in the peace process. Egypt is shouldering a heavy burden at this fateful time. This is how we the Palestinians and the Arab parties regard Egypt.

### Editorial Notes 'Requirement'

*TA1404180493 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 14 Apr 93 p 9*

[Editorial: "Between the Requirement and Reality"]

[Text] The Palestinian-Egyptian talks held yesterday in Cairo on the highest levels with the participation of Yasir 'Arafat and Husni Mubarak drew the final outlines of the Palestinian position regarding participation in the ninth round of peace negotiations. Those talks also determined the dimensions of that position in light of all the data which the two sides received during their Arab and international contacts.

Today, President Mubarak is to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Egypt. Rabin will be put in the picture and will be informed of the broad outlines of the Palestinian position, which constitutes the core of the positions of the other Arab negotiating parties, bearing in mind that those parties have ruled out their participation in the talks in the Palestinian delegation's absence.

Certainly, the details of the Palestinian position are no longer a secret. Moreover, they do not represent pressure on this or that party, because on the whole they seek to rectify the flaws in the talks' terms of reference and framework, or to implement the articles of international conventions that forbid resort to collective punishment in lands under occupation—be that deportation, security blockades, or closures that harm the life of residents.

On the other hand, the situation requires implementation of UN resolutions that laid the foundations for a just and lasting peace, foremost of all Resolution 242, which called for exchanging land for peace.

The Mubarak-Rabin meeting today in Egypt is required to produce a real modification in Israeli positions whereby those positions would come closer to the Palestinian demands. In this way not only will a great deal of time be saved, but also a great deal of trouble, violence, suffering, and disappointment for the two sides.

This is the requirement, but we have to wait for the results of this meeting to know what will be realized from this requirement and how efficient that will be in advancing the peace process on the right and active path.

### Gaza Notable's Summons Said Linked

*TA1404173393 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Reliable Palestinian sources disclosed to our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday urgently summoned Mr. As'ad al-Saftawi, a Gaza Strip notable, to Cairo. Mr. al-Saftawi left the Strip last evening for the Egyptian capital. Those sources expressed their belief that al-Saftawi's summons is related to the Rabin-Mubarak meeting in Ismailia.

Our correspondent notes that in the past al-Saftawi had presented a phased peace agreement plan to Mr. Rabin when the latter was defense minister in Yitzhaq Shamir's cabinet.

## Editorials Comment on al-Husayni's New Role in Talks

### Called 'Adjustment of Unfair Conditions'

*TA1304141493 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 12 Apr 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Creating the Right Conditions"]

[Text] All the parties to the peace process will shortly be leaving for Washington, D.C., including members of the Palestinian delegation, for consultations prior to the opening of the official meetings on April 20. These

consultations in no way mean that a final decision has been taken regarding participation in the bilateral talks. Certainly these talks might help break the deadlock created by the expulsion of 413 Palestinians. They will also be decisive in making the final decision at the leadership level in Tunis to attend or not.

The Israeli media leaked the news that Israeli government sources have agreed to allow Palestinians from East Jerusalem to participate officially in the peace talks, and they mentioned Faysal al-Husayni by name. This eliminates the Israeli veto on other East Jerusalemites from participating in the bilateral and multilateral talks. This is a very significant development in improving the Madrid model, and in line with the view that the issue of Jerusalem is part and parcel of the negotiations. One professor at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University said, "Granting al-Husayni new status as a negotiator not only would undermine Israel's position over Jerusalem. It would, very simply, help erase the line between the autonomy in the territories and eastern Jerusalem. It would also serve the Palestinians general interest of eroding ground rules for the peace process and reworking them in their favor."

In the Palestinian camp, it is seen in a different perspective: adjustment of unfair conditions set during the Likud period to entice the Shamir government with the peace process. The inclusion of East Jerusalemites in the peace process is in line with past Labor Party policies, taking into consideration that the Israeli coalition government headed by Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Shamir (as foreign minister) and Yitzhaq Rabin (as defense minister) in 1985 accepted Palestinians from East Jerusalem to participate in the peace process started by Secretary of State George Shultz under President Ronald Reagan. Thus some of the unfair conditions set under the Likud are waved away in order to promote peace in the region.

Finally, the latest measure of separating the territories from Israel—and more painfully, from East Jerusalem—must be reviewed, because in the past week conditions similar to the period during the Gulf war prevail in the occupied territories. The south of the West Bank is dismembered from the north, East Jerusalem is totally isolated, and the Gaza Strip is separated from Israel and the West Bank.

This is going to develop as a permanent arrangement. It's immediate result is pushing the unemployment rate past the 50 percent level and creating the next disenchantment with the peace process among Palestinians. This policy has to be reviewed and coordinated with the Palestinians, not unilaterally imposed.

### Implications Viewed

*TA1404132893 Jerusalem AL-USBU' AL-JADID in Arabic 11 Apr 93 p 2*

[Editorial: "Will al-Husayni Move to the West Bank, or Will Jerusalem Be Included in the Negotiations?"]

[Text] Faysal al-Husayni's inclusion into the Palestinian negotiating delegation has now become imminent. The Israelis see in this step a price that Rabin is paying in exchange for avoiding an immediate repatriation of the deportees. The Israelis are trying to justify their consent to include Faysal al-Husayni in the delegation by the fact that he is building a house in the Ramallah region, meaning that he will become a West Bank resident, not a Jerusalemite. In other words, the Israelis do not view al-Husayni's inclusion into the Palestinian delegation as placing the issue of Jerusalem on the talks' agenda or altering the status of Jerusalem, which Israel annexed in 1967.

The Palestinians, however, view al-Husayni's inclusion into the negotiating delegation differently, namely, inserting the issue of Jerusalem on the talks' agenda. Hence, some Palestinians view this step very positively.

The important question is: Will the issue of Jerusalem be shifted to the negotiating table, or will al-Husayni move to the West Bank? If each side adheres to its viewpoint, this step will be emptied of its content. If, however, al-Husayni's inclusion in the talks is followed by discussion of the issue of Jerusalem at the negotiations, this step will represent fundamental progress in the negotiations.

The closure days have proved that there can be no Palestinian entity without Jerusalem. The closure of Jerusalem has paralyzed public and private life in the occupied territories, which have been divided into four cantons. This is unacceptable under all circumstances.

The coming days will prove whether al-Husayni's inclusion into the delegation was a concession by Israel to the Palestinians to lure them to the talks, or a Palestinian concession to Israel.

## Algeria

### Lawyers Reject Government Draft Law To Combat Terrorism

*LD1404132793 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Following the government's proposals to amend the law to combat terrorism, the National Union of Lawyers expressed its rejection of these proposals. The council considered that these amendments allow the president of the special court wider prerogatives, while they prevent the defense from playing its full role.

### Two Terrorists Arrested; Police Chief Killed 12 Apr

*LD1304225193 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The National Gendarmeries arrested on Sunday two terrorists involved in the assassination of the late Karima Belhadj [secretary at the Directorate of National Security-Police headquarters] One of these two terrorists is 16 years old.

A statement released by the security department in the province of Blida reports that, at 1530 yesterday, three gunmen armed with Israeli-made submachine guns killed the police chief of the administrative district of Larbaa when he returned to his office after attending a meeting held at the headquarters of the administrative district. The police superintendent, Boualem Chayid, who was 54 and had four children, was known for his high morals, good behavior, and kindness towards the public.

### Employers Group Rejects Government Charges

*LD1204205893 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] In reply to the statement by the government chairmanship yesterday, the National Confederation of Employers has expressed its astonishment and dismay at what could have constituted a real and constructive dialogue on the state of the national economy, particularly the private sector. The National Confederation of Employers' statement added that the attack on the employers' organizations and the serious charges made against them were inappropriate; while completely rejecting all the serious and unjustified charges, the confederation will stand against any confusion between the employers union and the political and financial mafia. [passage omitted]

### Possible Links to Italian Corruption Investigated

*LD1004194093 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Apr 93*

[Text] The prime minister's office issued a statement which included:

According to information reported by the international press which specify that there were bribes involved during the signing and implementation of the contracts of the gas pipeline linking Algeria and Italy and the possible involvement of Algerian nationals, the prime minister asked the foreign minister to contact the Italian authorities to gather all information concerning the bribes related to the Algerian economy, whatever the importance of these information or the importance of those to whom they are related might be, particularly the bribes concerning the Algerian-Italian gas pipeline. Moreover, directives were given to the energy minister for SONATRACH to present itself as a civil side to the Italian judicial authorities.

## Egypt

### Mubarak, Israel's Rabin Continue Meetings

### Hold Working Lunch

*NC1404130593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[All Israeli names as received]

[Text] Ismailia, 14 Apr (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin held a round of expanded talks following their private talks, which lasted 90 minutes.

The expanded talks were attended on the Egyptian side by Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, Defense Minister General Muhammad Husayn Tantawi, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, and Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. On the Israeli side, the talks were attended by Elyaqim Rubenstein, cabinet secretary and head of the Israeli delegation to the talks with the Palestinian side; Eytan Habar, director of the Prime Minister's Office; Shim'on Shfizz, director general of the Prime Minister's Office; and Gen. Dani Yatom, military adviser to the prime minister.

Following these talks, President Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Rabin resumed their talks at a working lunch attended by members of the Egyptian and Israeli delegations.

### Give News Conference

*NC1404164093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1402 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[News conference by President Husni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin with unidentified correspondents in Ismailia on 14 April—recorded; Mubarak speaks in Arabic with passage-by-passage translation into Hebrew; Rabin speaks in English and Hebrew with superimposed Arabic translation; correspondents speak in Arabic, as well as in English and Hebrew with superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] [Mubarak] I take this opportunity to welcome Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. This is the third time I have met Yitzhaq Rabin. The first time was when he was defense minister, when I met him in Cairo. The second time was one week after he became prime minister. This is the third time. We have grown accustomed to phoning each other every now and then to exchange views and help advance the peace process. We met today on ways to restart the talks and on our goals at the talks. Our goal is to establish peace in the region and to reach a just and comprehensive solution to this complicated issue. I welcome him yet again. We will continue to exchange views until we achieve a just peace. Thank you.

[Rabin] President Mubarak, ladies and gentlemen of the press: Mr. President, I would first like to thank you for the opportunity to come to Ismailia to continue our history of meetings. I believe we have discussed ways to advance peace every time we have met. I believe it is only natural for the Israeli prime minister—or at least, this is the way I see my duty as Israeli prime minister—to turn to President Mubarak, the president of the greatest Arab country and the country that made a major turn in Arab-Israeli relations by deciding to end violence and establish peaceful relations. We celebrated the 14th anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty between our two countries one month ago. We have preserved this peace. My talks with Mubarak focused on one fundamental issue, namely how to extend the peace process beyond the peace between Egypt and Israel—the peace with our neighboring Arab countries, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon—and solve the problem between the Palestinians in the territories and Israel.

This time, we discussed how to restart the peace talks and how to ensure that they will yield results once they have resumed. The negotiations are merely a means; the negotiations aim to reach agreements. I had the opportunity to hear what President Mubarak learned from his meetings in the Middle East and abroad. We discussed the ways and means to ensure the peace negotiations will resume. I believe that I am optimistic following my meeting with President Mubarak. I repeat that I have great hopes that the peace talks will resume. Thank you very much, Mr. President, for hosting me.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, were there any positive indications in your talks with Rabin today that could be considered a starting point for the upcoming peace talks?

[Mubarak] Following my few meetings with the Arab parties concerned with the peace issue, I can say there are wide horizons for peace and solving the Palestinian issue. We are making efforts to enable the talks to start as scheduled on 20 April. I can say there are high hopes for holding the talks on that date. This will be decided in the meeting of the cordon states in Damascus on Friday and Saturday. This is the main focus of the peace process.

[Correspondent] President Mubarak, did you ask Prime Minister Rabin to make new gestures to encourage the Palestinian side—and, consequently, the other parties, especially the Syrian side—to join the negotiations on 20 April? Did Rabin agree to take specific steps to encourage the Palestinians and the other Arab states to join the talks?

[Mubarak] It isn't a matter of an encouraging gesture; we want to work to start the talks. Our efforts are focused on starting the talks on their scheduled date. As for the gestures you have mentioned, they can be mentioned and discussed within the sessions of the talks when they resume. There is great hope that all these topics will be discussed very frankly during the talks and not before then.

[Correspondent] Are you optimistic that the Arab parties will join the talks on 20 April?

[Mubarak] I have high hopes. We await the ministers, who will meet on Friday and Saturday. There are high hopes that all of them want peace. Thank you.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, did the Egyptian side submit demands? Did Egypt submit proposals by the Palestinian side? What is your reply?

[Rabin] Mubarak presented the Arabs' expectations and preferences. We discussed all these preferences. We explained the Israeli stand. I believe I cannot divulge the details. Nevertheless, it is clear that the Israeli Government's current stand on the peace talks completely conforms with [word indistinct] rights. Israel accepts UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a basis for peace talks with Syria. Israel considers these resolutions as a basis for peace talks. Certainly, we will reach a permanent solution with the Palestinians after the interim period. This is the basis. I believe this represents a more moderate stand by Israel and a solution that will lead to peace agreements.

[Correspondent] This question is for President Mubarak and Prime Minister Rabin: Has Israel made enough concessions to enable the Palestinians to join the peace talks?

[Mubarak] We did not meet to find a concession for either side. I think such things could take place during the negotiations and not before then. We are trying hard just to persuade the parties to meet on 20 April to start the negotiations. All issues could be discussed during the negotiations. If there is any concession from either side, it could be adopted then but not during our talks.

[Rabin] May I say I believe peace will be achieved when the two sides come to the conclusion that it is in their interest to achieve peace, to end war and violence, and to establish peaceful relations. I believe what has been achieved in the relationship between Egypt and Israel over the past 14 years should serve as an example of what can be done when there is a real desire to make peace. I have no doubt that what has been achieved between Egypt and Israel should serve as an example of the will and determination of two leaders to establish peace. This is why this meeting between the Israeli prime minister and the Egyptian president is important.

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[Correspondent] Did you resolve any of the remaining problems on restarting the peace process? If so, what problems have you resolved?

[Mubarak] We are not here to resolve problems among the parties. We are here to narrow the gap between the two sides so that they can begin negotiations on 20 April to solve all the problems that have been raised several times in the past. However, we will not solve these problems here and now.

[Rabin] I would like to add that the problems are not between Egypt and Israel since there is peace between Egypt and Israel. I also believe that President Mubarak has been trying to encourage the others to participate in the peace negotiations. Today's meeting bears in mind Egypt's influence and ability to encourage the two sides to resume the peace negotiations. This meeting is not to solve the problems but to begin the process that will lead to solving these problems.

[Correspondent] This question is for President Mubarak: Did you ask Rabin to open the occupied territories?

[Mubarak] We discussed these problems, in general. However, a solution to this issue will be reached during the negotiations, which will resume on 20 April.

[Rabin] Closing the occupied territories was merely for security reasons. Some Israelis demand that we restore what used to be called the green line. Some Israeli political parties are attacking me on this point. However, as long as there is no agreement between us and the Palestinians and as long as we are there, we have a responsibility toward the Palestinians' welfare. This is why we are trying to find ways to ensure that a sense of security will prevail among the Israelis and that the Palestinians will have means to their security and economy. More than 8,000 Palestinians have been allowed to resume agricultural work inside Israel. We are trying to find ways to invest in the territories, and I believe that the number of Palestinians who will be permitted to return to work in Israel will gradually increase. I do not want to say when and how many there will be. This is our intention, however.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, you have held talks with Syrian President al-Asad, and he said he is willing to establish full peace on the condition it is a just peace. What did he mean by full peace? Does it signify a political and economic peace? Does it also imply a withdrawal from the Golan Heights? What did President al-Asad tell you?

[Mubarak] I will tell you his exact words. When he was asked this question during the meeting held here prior to my departure for Washington, he replied: Full peace. I understand this to mean peace in all its various aspects.

[Correspondent] What does full peace signify in connection with withdrawal?

[Mubarak] I cannot explain to you President al-Asad's position. However, my position is that peace should signify peace in all its aspects, in its real sense. Please wait until the negotiations begin so that we can obtain further details.

[Correspondent] 'Arafat was here yesterday. Can you tell us about your meeting with him? Did he submit any positive responses to the basic question of participating in the peace talks in Washington?

[Mubarak] I can tell you exactly what 'Arafat told me. I meet him occasionally and [words indistinct]. We try to help him. We earnestly seek to resume the negotiations on 20 April. In conclusion, I can say that there are very high hopes to hold the meeting on 20 April. An announcement will be made after the foreign ministers meeting in Damascus next Friday.

[Correspondent] President Mubarak, did you convey a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Mr. Rabin? Are you optimistic about the prospects for progress in Israel's negotiations with Syria?

[Mubarak] As for messages, I do not carry any. He who carries a briefcase carries messages. As for optimism, I am optimistic by nature because all of us and all of the concerned parties want peace and understand the meaning and value of peace to nations. Therefore, I cannot say I am optimistic despite the difficulty of the negotiations. [sentence as heard] Still, I have high hopes that the negotiations will lead to a comprehensive solution to the issue.

[Correspondent] Mr. Rabin, has Israel given thought to the land-for-peace principle?

[Rabin] I have made it clear that we have accepted in principle Resolutions 242 and 338 on reaching peace with Syria. As to the negotiations with the Palestinians in the territories, you know that the letter of invitation to the Madrid conference included the principles of the Camp David Accords, providing for moving toward a lasting peace in two stages: an interim agreement not exceeding five years that provides for the beginning of negotiations in the third year to attain a permanent peace based on Resolutions 242 and 338. I believe this [words indistinct]. Allow me to add that I have made this clear in Israel, and I do not see any reason to say it differently here. We accept the principle of a withdrawal from the Golan Heights in the context of peace. We will not negotiate the dimensions of the withdrawal without knowing for the sake of what we are doing so, for what kind of peace. Some matters are interconnected, and there are goals connected with the withdrawal process: a permanent solution, peace with Israel. I have made it clear that the position of the current Israeli Government is that we are not seeking to annex almost 2 million Palestinians who reside in the territories. However, this is not connected with the interim agreement but the permanent solution. At the same time, we are not ready to withdraw—in the context of the permanent solution—to the pre-Six Day War borders. However, you must understand that territorial compromises are part of our policy.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion about international terrorism and extremism? Did you discuss any regional problems, such as the terrorist threats?

[Mubarak] We did not touch on this issue as such but spoke of extremism, not merely in this region but worldwide.

[Correspondent] The Arabs had been hoping to learn from you that you have taken certain measures such as the return of the deportees and ending the closure of Gaza and the West Bank so that the Palestinians can return to the negotiating table. Did you present to President Mubarak anything of the sort?

[Rabin] I can assure you that if there is no violence and terrorism, there will be no need for any measures such as deportation, detention, or an increased Israeli military presence. Whenever someone is ready to come forward and say that there will be no more terrorism, I pledge to you that all the Israeli measures against violence will no longer be necessary and will become null and void.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, did President Mubarak convey a message from Chairman 'Arafat to you? Were you encouraged by anything that Chairman 'Arafat may have said? Were you willing to accept Faysal al-Husayni as a negotiator?

[Rabin] I believe that President Mubarak made it clear that he is not carrying any messages. Therefore, there is no need to answer your first question. As far as your second question is concerned, the issue of Faysal al-Husayni being the head of the Palestinian delegation was mentioned by the United States. I am not aware that it has been accepted by the Palestinians. Once I know that the Palestinians accept him heading the delegation, I will make a decision about it.

[Correspondent] Do you accept Palestinians from the diaspora as members of the delegation?

[Rabin] We have a certain principle. As you know, in 1989 when I first met President Mubarak, I proposed to the Israeli Government then that a person who is registered in the territories but also has an address in Jerusalem can be a member. That was my position then. This was one of the issues on which we were divided with the Likud. That issue brought about the dissolution of the national unity government. That was our position then. There is no change in our position. It does not include anything other than what I just mentioned.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, many people in Israel ask themselves why your excellency so far has avoided visiting Israel, in contrast to the several visits that Prime Minister Rabin has made to Egypt. Is there any particular reason for not visiting Israel?

[Mubarak] Why do you want to create problems? [laughter] We have good relations. We can discuss anything anywhere, in Egypt or Israel. There is no problem. You can write this in your newspaper. Do not create problems. Seek peace. Do not try to create problems between people here and there.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, have you agreed to return any of the deportees since 1967 and before the intifadah? Or have you agreed to accelerate the return of the deportees whom you have sent to Lebanon?

[Rabin] I do not want to get into details. As you know, there was an understanding with the United States about the new deportees. As for the deportees before the intifadah started, we expressed readiness in the past to do something. I do not believe that anything will happen before negotiations are resumed.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, have you been convinced of President Mubarak's view that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad wants real peace?

[Rabin] I trust President Mubarak's words. Israel believes it can achieve the goal through negotiations with Syria.

[Mubarak] If the prime minister permits, I am confident that Syria wants peace. We might expect complicated talks, but I am confident that their final objective is to reach a just solution and peace.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, as a key broker in the Arab- Israeli peace talks, in your meeting today with Rabin did you reach a satisfactory formula to allow the Palestinians to return to the negotiating table? Can we say that 1993 will bring peace to the area?

[Mubarak] I have discussed with the prime minister all that you have already said. I answered this question before. However, my hope for 1993 is that by the end of this year we will have achieved good conclusions for peace.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, earlier you said something to the effect that Israeli concessions could do something for the negotiations. Does that mean there is the possibility of further Israeli concessions before the start of the talks?

[Mubarak] I said this quite a long time ago. I said it when we went to Taba. I said peace is a concession. Peace is too precious to be subjected to concessions. I do not want to speak now. I think we are on the right track. I hope that the parties will convene on 20 April.

### Rabin Departs

*NC1404152593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Ismailia, 14 Apr (MENA)—Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin left Ismailia this afternoon after a visit of several hours.

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## Commentary Views Meeting

*NC1404165593 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 14 Apr 93*

['Atif 'Umar commentary: "The Outcome of the Egyptian-Palestinian Summit in Cairo and of the Egyptian-Israeli Summit in Ismailia"]

[Text] Egypt continues its sincere efforts to establish security and stability in the region. The Egyptian leadership is eager to achieve these goals out of concern for the present and the future, particularly since the results will affect all countries and peoples of the region if we succeed in concluding a historic reconciliation with Israel. Israeli Prime Minister Rabin will meet with President Mubarak in Ismailia today. An obvious fact is that as long as there is no peace, violence and counter-violence will escalate. Without peace, conflict will intensify and the opportunities for construction and progress will be wasted.

Another fact is that we cannot separate the waves of terrorism currently besetting a number of Arab capitals from the peace which these countries are eager to reach. These waves of terrorism led by Iran against the Arab and Islamic world—particularly against those countries playing an effective role in current events, such as Egypt and Algeria—are aimed at obstructing any agreement conducive to peace and security in the region. The peace that the countries and peoples of the region are eager to achieve contradicts with Iran's goals of containing and dominating the region's peoples through false slogans raised by the Iranian leaders to deceive the Arab peoples.

The role Iran is playing in the occupied Arab territories exposes the true nature of this regime, which has succeeded in inciting certain Palestinian forces to fight one another and in instigating Fatah and Hamas to use force against one another in Gaza and the West Bank. Despite all the reckless attempts by the mullahs' regime in Tehran, we emphasize that the Palestinian Arab people—after a long struggle for their legitimate rights and after dealing with all Arab capitals—have become fully aware of the dimensions of the Iranian schemes. This is particularly true now that events have shown that Iran is not interested in a peaceful settlement or restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights as much as in dominating the entire Arab region. Therefore, it is no wonder that the capitals of the terrorist countries and those collaborating with them in Tehran, Baghdad, and Khartoum are launching unfair media campaigns against Egypt to cast doubt on its capability, sincerity, and support for Arab causes—primarily the cause of peace. Whatever plots and attempts these countries hatch, the rightful owners of the issue are directly dealing with Egypt. They are fully aware of Egypt's sincerity in reaching a fair, permanent, and stable solution to the Middle East issue, foremost of which is, as Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has emphasized, the Palestinian issue. This issue is the crux of this conflict.

We maintain that this remains true following Mubarak's important and successful talks during his 10 days in Washington, London, Bonn, and Paris. These talks focused on peace in the Middle East. The summit between Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat that concluded in Cairo yesterday also was linked to Mubarak's talks with European and U.S. leaders. The Mubarak-Rabin summit, which opened in Ismailia today, also is linked to the outcome of Mubarak's talks with U.S. and European leaders. We can affirm that all signs indicate a relaxation in the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly after Israeli radio and press reported that an Israeli proposal is on hand to declare Israeli preparedness to withdraw completely from Syria's Golan Heights in return for a comprehensive settlement that guarantees an end to war and normalization of ties with Damascus; and after news agencies reported that Israel will allow Palestinians to work inside Israel and will let Faysal al-Husayni, who comes from Jerusalem, to participate in the peace negotiations to be held in Washington.

These achievements are the result of sincere and enlightened Egyptian efforts. Egypt will ignore those who cast doubts; who claim that Egypt seeks to divide the Arab world. Suffice it to say that Arab delegations actually have arrived in Washington to arrange for the ninth round of peace talks, which the Tehran government claimed would be useless. At the same time, we assert that Egypt, which knocked at the door of peace, will continue its efforts until peace is established. Peace is a goal that will ensure the wellbeing and prosperity of all peoples and eliminate all dens of terrorism in the region.

## Foreign Ministry Concerned Over Nagorno-Karabakh

*NC1104135193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1249 GMT 11 Apr 93*

[Text] Cairo, 11 Apr (MENA)—Egypt has expressed concern over the continued fighting in the region of Nagorno-Karabakh and the invasion of the Kelbadzhar area in Azerbaijan. A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry today says that the continued deterioration of the situation in that region and the use of force to settle the Armenian-Azeri conflict over the region will jeopardize the stability of the two former Soviet Republics.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement calls for an end to the military operations in Nagorno-Karabakh and for the withdrawal of the forces from any areas seized in the past few days in order to open the way for political efforts to find a solution that is satisfactory to both sides.

The statement also calls for the implementation of the agreement reached by Minsk group, which calls for a cease-fire in Nagorno- Karabakh, for the deployment of observers between the fighters on both sides, and for political efforts to resolve the crisis.

### Pakistani Embassy Gets List of 56 'Extremists'

*NC1304074093 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 7 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] The Egyptian Government has handed the Pakistani Embassy in Cairo a list of 56 extremists in Peshawar. These extremists give instructions to terrorists and extremists in Egypt, plan terrorist operations, and issue lists of Egyptian officials and personalities targeted for assassination. Egypt has asked for the expulsion of these extremist elements from Pakistan, because they pose a threat to Egyptian security and represent a center supporting terrorism and extremism in Egypt and other Arab states.

AL-AHALI has learned that Egypt might request the extradition of these extremists to Egypt to face trial in Egyptian courts.

President Mubarak and Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif have agreed to cooperate to combat terrorism and end the Egyptian extremists' presence in Pakistan.

### Calls To Intensify Sanctions Against Libya Criticized

*NC1304065993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2158 GMT 12 Apr 93*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AKHBAR expresses surprise at the enthusiasm shown by certain leaders of the new world order to intensify the sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council against Libya because of a doubtful accusation over the Lockerbie incident. This comes, the paper says, when the new world order shows no enthusiasm to use force to implement the UN Security Council resolution to halt massacres in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In its Tuesday editorial headlined: "When the Standards of the New World Order Are Equal," AL-AKHBAR denounces international human rights groups active in most countries for doing nothing to end the most heinous crimes of the 20th century in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The paper expresses astonishment at the shameful shortcomings of international justice and the inaction that cripples feeling and conscience. It wonders whether the fault lies in the order or in those who protect and defend it.

### Security Foils 'Most Dangerous Terrorist Plot'

*NC1504111993 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 12 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] Security bodies have foiled the most dangerous terrorist plot drawn up by members of the Islamic Jihad organization, Hesitation and Confirmation, and the al-Tahrir Party to carry out terrorist operations at several strategic sites. Military uniforms belonging to Armed Forces and police officers were seized. Security figures also confiscated weapons and hand grenades readied for terrorist operations. The 300 defendants will be referred to the military courts within a few days. The terrorist scheme was unearthed following the arrest two days ago of group leader Majdi Muhammad Salim, 32. The 300 include two members of the Palestinian Hamas Movement, Muhammad Husam al-Sharif and Rida Salamah Mustafa Abu-'Awn, who recently joined the Islamic Jihad Organization. The defendants admitted that they receive instructions from Muhammad Shawqi al-Islambuli and Ayman al-Zawahiri, who live in Afghanistan and who are in charge of exporting the Iranian revolution to the region.

### Suspects in Murder of Police General Apprehended

*NC1404063393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Text] Asyut, 13 Apr (MENA)—Security agencies in Asyut have apprehended a number of extremist elements suspected of assassinating Major General Muhammad 'Abd-al-Latif al-Shimi, assistant to Asyut security chief for the south, and Warrant Officers 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Abdallah and Muhammad Mahmud Ahmad in Abu Tij the day before yesterday.

In the context of the constant search operation in the scene of the crime and adjacent areas, the security agencies this evening apprehended a number of elements suspected of committing the crime in the al-Shaykh Mansur mosque in Abu Tij.

Investigation had revealed that these elements were hiding in a room annexed to the mosque. Some locally made explosive charges and antiregime leaflets were found in the room.

The security agencies continue their intensified efforts to locate more of the culprits. Thorough search campaigns are being mounted in Abu Tij and adjacent areas, where they may be hiding.

A number of ambushes have been set up at Abu Tij inlets and outlets since the incident took place to tighten the security control on the region and the noose on the perpetrators.

### Nasirite Party Urges Reform To Confront Terrorism

*NC1304090493 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Apr 93 pp 1, 9*

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Nasirite Arab Democratic Party has issued a statement saying that violence can be confronted only by an honest and responsible revision of all the erroneous policies that have led the homeland to crisis. In it, the living standards of most people worsen as they are suffocated by price increases and unemployment and the corrupt minority gets richer and more corrupt. Egyptian efforts over decades are being wasted by the selling off of the public sector at the cheapest prices and the state shirks its responsibilities, leaving most people at the mercy of the monsters of price hikes, corruption, and social disorder and the monsters of violence and terrorism.

The party reiterated its belief that confronting violence and terrorism has become the responsibility of every citizen. The party backs every collective and partisan effort in this area and will not hesitate to contribute to these efforts as long as they are honest and sincere. The party believes that the challenge we face imposes on us the need to adhere to a program of real reform around which all society's forces can rally, a program that does not introduce economic reforms imposed through pressure by international institutions, but seeks Egypt's development, independence, and social reforms that can redistribute wealth, eliminate corruption, and secure the missing social justice, a program that could usher in political reforms guaranteeing the widest possible participation by all political forces and trends.

The statement added: Such a program alone could enable us to build a real front, one that does not confine itself to issuing statements of support or condemnation, but assumes part of the responsibility and lays down the policies that could make Egypt a homeland again for all Egyptians to rebuild together, enjoy its advantages, and guard with their souls against violence, terrorism, oppression, and corruption.

## Libya

### Rally Marks Anniversary of U.S. Attack

*LD1504092593 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 15 Apr (JANA)—A great rally where speeches were made was held last night at the house of the brother leader of the revolution, which was subjected to the barbaric, failed American-Atlanticist aggression, to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Libyan Arab people against this aggression. This great rally was attended by Sayf al-Islam, al-Sa'idi, and al- Mu'tasim Billah, and by Ayishah al-Qadhdhafi [Mu'ammar al- Qadhdhafi's sons and daughter]. The rally was also attended by representatives of the Basic People's Congresses of the communes, the heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Great Jamahiriyah, the UN resident commissioner in the Great Jamahiriyah, and the secretaries of pan-Arab and international congresses.

A speech was made at this rally by a representative of the Basic People's Congresses which lauded the Libyan Arab people's brave confrontation against this aggression aimed at the gigantic civilizational gains realized thanks to the great 1 September Revolution in all areas.

The representative of the Basic People's Congresses stressed that this aggression proved the deep-rooted malevolence harbored by the rancourous crusading imperialism to the Libyan Arab people, the Arab nation, the peaceloving peoples, the free men of the world, and those who aspire to freedom. The representative also stressed eternal attachment to the power of the people which alone holds power through communes, and their permanent readiness to defend the gigantic civilizational gains realized over a quarter of a century thanks to the great 1 September revolution. [passage omitted]

Those who made speeches pointed out that the great victory realized by the people of the Great Jamahiriyah against the mightiest imperialist military power conferred on this people the respect and appreciation of all peaceloving peoples of the world, its free men, and its international organizations. [passage omitted].

The representatives of the Basic People's Congresses presented a bouquet of flowers to the brother leader of the revolution on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Libyan Arab people against the barbaric and failed American-Atlanticist aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah.

## Sudan

### Official Says Government To Attend Abuja Talks

*EA1404133593 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1315 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Text] Dr. 'Ali al-Hajj Muhammad, the official government spokesman in the peace negotiations, has confirmed the government's commitment to the date fixed for the second Abuja negotiations, 26 April. This was said in a briefing given by the Foreign Ministry to media leaders and representatives of local and foreign information organs, press and agencies on 13 April.

Dr. 'Ali al-Hajj Muhammad said the government was still determined to negotiate directly with rebel John Garang, which confirmed its commitment to the principle of negotiation.

He reviewed the recent discussions in Entebbe, describing them as representing a new stage in that they had confirmed the first Abuja resolutions and Garang's commitment to them, and unconditional participation in the second Abuja negotiations. He also referred to the recent preliminary meeting in Abuja, saying that although the negotiations had not been held directly with the movement [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], a kind of understanding had been arrived at on the course of the negotiations. His Excellency said that the government was ready to go to Abuja.

### Further on Abuja II, Cease-Fire

*EA1404180593 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Dr. 'Ali al-Haj Muhammad, the minister of planning and investment and the government's official spokesman in the peace negotiations, has confirmed the government's readiness to attend Abuja II and to hold the negotiations on the date fixed. Dr. Muhammad said that during the recent meeting between the government and the main rebel faction in Abuja, an agreement had been reached on extending the cease-fire between the

government and the rebels and among the rebel factions as well as the resumption of relief aid deliveries that were discontinued because of the fighting going on between the rebel factions and not because of the government. Concerning a statement issued about a unified delegation of the rebel factions which asked to meet the government, Dr. Muhammad declared that the government would send a delegation to meet them in Nairobi.

### Over 200 Garang Troops Said Killed in Fighting

*AB1404122593 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] We turn now to Sudan where factions of the Sudanese People's Liberation Front, the SPLA, are still fighting each other for control in the south of the country. Yesterday [12 April] on Network, we heard from Garang's mainstream SPLA about how it pushed the SPLA-United out of Kongor. That happened three weeks ago. Since then, the SPLA-United have retreated to Ayud, some 40 km away. But Garang's rebels have followed them and fighting has begun again. Well, John Luk is the SPLA-United's spokesperson in Nairobi and on the line last night, he told Josephine Hazely about his information on the latest battle in Ayud.

[Begin recording] [Luk] So far, the three commanders, who commanded Garang forces, have all been killed. Their top commander was somebody called George Athor and two others have been killed. Over 200 of Garang forces have been killed, and more bodies were being found and the remnants of them began to run toward Kongor where I believe they will also be intercepted on the way.

[Hazely] But what about casualties on your side—the Nasir and Riak Machar side?

[Luk] Yes, we have had also some casualties but not to the level of Garang forces, because our forces have always been in that area and they know every part of the terrain there. The Garang forces consisted of people who do not even know....[pauses] Some of them do not know the area and they got themselves stationed just in the center of Ayud Town which....[pauses] They were besieged and attacked and I think we have there.-...[pauses] A lot of them have been killed unfortunately, and a lot of their cars mounted with heavy artillery have also been captured by our people.

[Hazely] So now you say fighting has been going on in Ayud up till the 11th of this month. Surely, does it not underline the claim that the Garang commander and the representative made on this program the other day that you have got reinforcement from the Khartoum administration, and you are fighting the war by proxy for the Khartoum government?

[Luk] That is totally false. I listened to that commander you referred to yesterday morning, and he was saying that if our forces did not have supplies from anywhere, they would have wiped us out. I think it answers itself, because we would have also wiped them out. Of course, we could have some source but certainly, that is not the Sudan Government.

[Hazely] But, you people who have formed this SPLA-United, you did say you were going to talk to the Sudanese Government, so I mean what is one to deduce from that?

[Luk] Yes, we are going to talk with the Sudan Government and this is very clear. We have stated it as soon as the delegation of the SPLA-United came back from Abuja. In fact, what we are going to talk with the government is peace.

[Hazely] There is also the accusation from the Garang side that you in the SPLA-United are playing the tribal card. You are playing the Dinka against the Nur and causing unnecessary splits and tribalism in the movement.

[Luk] It is not us who are playing the Dinka card. The tribal card is being played by Garang. He has been instigating this tribal fight in order to try to mobilize the Dinkas behind him, although he is a terrible leader. He has been rejected by so many. So, it is not us who are playing the tribal card. It is him. SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement]/SPLA-United now, as composed, includes all our groups, all [word indistinct] opinions from Bahr al-Ghazal, from Upper Nile, from Equatoria. [end recording]

### Transport Minister Reports on Peace Road Project

*EA1404132493 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] The Transitional National Assembly [TNA] held a session on 12 April with the deputy speaker, Professor Muhammad al- Amin al-Basir, in the chair.

Mr. 'Uthman 'Abd al-Qadir, the minister of transport, communications and tourism, said in reply to a question from TNA member Khalid (Onaloki) about the Peace Road that the National Salvation Revolution had great interest in this vital road, as it was one of the pillars of unity, stability, peace, and economic and social awakening. He said the revolution had proposed it when the Islamic Republic of Iran asked it to select a project to be implemented as a gift from the Iranian people to the Sudanese people.

The minister explained that the road was part of the route which linked Sudan to Uganda and Kenya. The first phase extends from Rabak to Renk with a length of 166 km. The second phase will be from Rabak to Malakal with a length of 342 km. The third phase will be from Malakal to Bor with a length of 400 km. The fourth and final phase will be from Bor to Juba with a length of 200 km. He drew attention to the fact that the start of work on the road was celebrated on 24 May 1992.

The minister said that the Iranian ambassador had assured him recently that the necessary equipment was on its way to the country. He said the equipment should arrive soon and that all the work teams had been assembled in Rabak and Kosti to receive it. The minister said that negotiations were now going on with the Peace and Development Foundation to commence work on this important project. [passage omitted]

## Finance Minister on Oil, Currency Crises

*JN1304083693 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Apr 93 pp 1,5*

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Ayman al-Safadi]

[Text] Khartoum—Sudan currently suffering from severe oil and foreign currency reserves shortages, is hoping that an economic agreement with Libya will help put its economy back on track and provide it with its needs of fuel.

Sudanese Finance Minister 'Abd-al-Rahim Hamdi said he hoped the two countries would this week reactivate a trade agreement under which Libya provided Sudan with most of its oil needs until a year ago.

The talks could lead to eventual merger between Libya and Sudan which have already allowed free movement of goods and labour. In 1990, Khartoum and Tripoli signed a pact with [as published] the two countries said could lead to a complete merger.

Mr. Hamdi said Sudan, which on Saturday stopped allowing gas to private cars and taxies, will buy oil from anybody that sells it. "If America would give us oil on reasonable terms we would accept," Mr. Hamdi told the Jordan Times Monday before flying to Damascus for an Arab finance ministers meeting.

Sudan is also trying to secure part of its annual needs of 1.2 million tonnes of crude oil from Iran, but Mr. Hamdi said differences over terms of payment have to be worked out before Iranian oil shipments to Sudan are resumed.

He said the two countries have to agree on conditions of payment for Sudan's $80 million debt to Iran which date back to the early seventies.

"We have to work out a scheme where we can repay them (the Iranians) or give them assurance for payment over a long period," Mr. Hamdi told the Jordan Times on board a Sudan Airways flight to Amman Monday morning.

Sudan is currently buying all of its oil needs from the spot market, but it is unable to meet its needs because of severe foreign currency reserves shortages. Sudan's annual oil bill amounts to $300 million, according to Mr. Hamdi.

"We have no reserves. We are using whatever is available as the government to get necessary facilities," Mr. Hamdi said.

Sudan, however, is trying to lure foreign investment to revitalise its staggering economy and help the economic restructuring programme started in [illegible].

Mr. Hamdi said Sudan was holdi[illegible]iations with a consortium of foreign firms and e[illegible] them to start coming to Sudan within 36 months. [illegible] companies, he said, include Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates businesses but that "have no political indications."

Relations between Khartoum and the Gulf states deteriorated during the Gulf Crisis when Sudan refused to support the war coalition against Iraq. Gulf states have since then stopped their financial aid to Sudan.

Mr. Hamdi was not optimistic about aid from international funds, saying that their approach to his country's problems were "extremely political."

"(These organisations) go back to their donors to see what they like and not," he said.

"There is a very specific and very intentional effort by donors to deny us financial assistance not only on bilateral bases but also to lean on international bodies not to help Sudan," said Mr. Hamdi. He said that until 1989, half of Sudan's budget was financed by foreign aid.

Sudan has been politically and economically isolated since the government of 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir assumed power in a military coup in 1989. Arab aid stopped flowing in the aftermath of the Gulf war and Western aid was halted due to charges of human rights abuses and support for "terrorism."

American embassy sources in Khartoum told the Jordan Times that the U.S. would not resume aid to Sudan until it returns to civil rule and stop "widespread human rights violations."

In 1990, Sudan started an economic restructuring programme with the announced objective of reaching self-sufficiency. The programme included tough austerity measures and the lifting of subsidies which sent prices soaring.

Enhancing the performance of the agricultural sector was the major target of the programme. Mr. Hamdi said its success was reflected in the 15 to 17 percent expected growth of the gross domestic product.

But while the area of agriculture has been expanded from 11 million to 33 million acres, low productivity is still a major problem.

"Although we have expanded agriculture tremendously..., productivity is still very low," Mr. Hamdi said.

Mr. Hamdi said logistic difficulties and an underdeveloped infrastructure were also obstructing the success of the programme. And even though the lifting of subsidies

and the floating of the Sudanese pound, which, Mr. Hamdi said, is till above its real value, have caused high inflation, severely hitting the standards of living, the minister said he was not worried about the social repercussions of the programme because the people are "very understanding."

He said Sudan was not keen on resorting to subsidies to ease the impact of the programme but might apply it selectively to support certain sectors of the economy.

"Subsidies killed the agriculture sector which represents 40 percent of the GDP and 80 percent of the population," he said. "Either this or the country would have died," he said.

He said it was unfair to subsidise 20 percent of the population, the urban community, at the expense of the other 80 percent. City dwellers, who traditionally benefitted from the subsidies, were the worst hit by the lifting of subsidies since salary increase did not correspond with inflation.

Mr. Hamdi added that the government expects to bring inflation from 87 percent to 59 percent by the end of the current fiscal year in June through managing expenditure and putting a ceiling to military expenditure which amounted to 20 billion Sudanese pounds (about $150 million) in 1992 compared to seven billion (about $20 million) in 1991.

He said Sudan had no choice but to proceed with its economic restructuring programme despite the lack of international support.

### Saddam Receives Message From King Husayn

*JN1404142693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1248 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Apr (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from his brother His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. The message deals with the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Jordan's Ambassador in Baghdad Nasuh Salim al-Majali delivered the message when the president received him today. Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal attended the meeting.

### From Algeria's Kafi

*JN1404143093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1247 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Apr (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received an oral message from his brother Ali Kafi, chairman of the Higher State Council in Algeria.

Algerian War Veterans Minister Brahim Chibout delivered the message when the president received him today. The message deals with fraternal bilateral relations.

Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi attended the meeting.

### Foreign Minister Meets With Russian Delegation

*JN1504095293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Apr (INA)—Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf last night received a delegation from the Russian National Salvation Front headed by Ilya Konstantinov.

The minister explained the consequences of the unfair embargo imposed on Iraq and the suffering it causes to children, old people, and women, as well as the Iraqi efforts to rebuild what was destroyed by the enemies.

The two sides reviewed the historic ties between the two friendly peoples and asserted the need to restore the traditional ties between the two countries and upgrade them for the benefit of the two peoples.

### Mubarak Recognition of Iraq Role 'Late'

*JN1504083893 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Apr (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said Husni Mubarak's recognition of Iraq's strategic role in the face of the arrogance Iran displays against the Arab states was late and incomplete.

In statements to the French press, the Egyptian president said Iraq was the only party capable of confronting Iran and preventing its actions and aggressions against the regional states, and of ensuring a strategic parity in the region.

Commenting on Mubarak's statements, AL-THAWRAH says: Its importance at this current phase not withstanding, this recognition of Iraq's role is incomplete. What Mubarak has failed to acknowledge was the fact that the U.S.-Atlantic-Zionist aggression against Iraq, in which he participated, was the cause behind the disruption of the regional balance of power.

AL-THAWRAH asserts that the 30-state aggression and its aftermath have disrupted the regional balance of power and produced new facts that encouraged the Tehran regime to break loose and assume a role larger than its real size in the region.

The paper notes a series of Iranian subversive activities in various places besides the Iraqi arena. It says the results of the aggression, to which the Egyptian and Iranian regimes contributed, have encouraged the latter to reveal its expansionist aggressive course and complete its occupation of the three Arab islands, destabilize security in a number of states in the Arab East and the Arab Maghreb, and to intervene in the affairs of Muslim states in Central Asia and elsewhere.

The paper emphasizes the timing of Mubarak's recognition of Iraq's role in the face of Iran's arrogance. It says this recognition came late because it was made more than two years after Tehran rulers began to implement their expansionist, hostile, terroristic scheme.

### Report Says Bush in Kuwait To Receive 'Baksheesh'

*JN1504085593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Apr (INA)—Sarcastic comments have spread among popular and diplomatic quarters in the Kuwait area yesterday over the scene of Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah encircling the neck of criminal Bush with so-called Kuwait's greatest medal.

The papers which select news of scandals and bizarre events wonder sarcastically about the size and weight of that medal, known also as the Great Mubarak Medal. They wonder about the price of precious stones and diamonds in that medal and the tax which Bush has to pay to U.S. customs on his return home. The same papers ask about the absent role of the Kuwaiti soldier, who so far has not been awarded even the cheapest medal in appreciation of the role he played in what the ruling clique calls "the liberation of Kuwait."

The papers also comment on the pitiful way in which Bush delivered his hypocritical statements to thank that paper ruler for the medal, which Bush received in a comic scene staged in a huge tent that was erected in the garden of the amir's palace. Reporters who attended that

extremely lavish scene said it embodied the stupidity and arrogance which one reads about in fairy tales.

Bush brought with him to Kuwait his wife Barbara, his Secretary of State James Baker, and some of his administration officials so that each of them can receive his baksheesh personally.

### Post-Embargo Plan To Develop Oilfields With Italy

*NC1204131693 Paris AFP in English 1302 GMT 12 Apr 93*

[Text] Nicosia, April 12 (AFP)—Iraq and the Italian firm ENI are negotiating accords to develop two oilfields on a production- sharing basis, to be signed after the U.N. embargo is lifted, the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY said Monday.

The Nicosia-based newsletter said the two fields were at al- Nasiriyah and near al-Amarah, both in southern Iraq. They were discovered in the early 1980s and are of medium size, it said.

Separate negotiations with the French firms Total and Elf Aquitaine to develop two larger oilfields have reached an advanced stage, the newsletter added.

Iraq has been under a U.N. trade embargo since its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

On March 13, Iraq said it signed a 600-million-dollar deal to buy food products from Italian firms to overcome shortages caused by the embargo, from which food and medicine are exempted.

### Opposition: Saddam To Recognize 'Kurdish Entity'

*PM1404151893 London AL-WASAT in Arabic 12 Apr 93 p1*

[Unattributed report: "From Our Own Sources"]

[Text] A prominent Iraqi opposition official has stated that President Saddam Husayn has told a certain Kurdish party in northern Iraq, through a special Kurdish envoy linked to the Baghdad regime, that he is prepared to recognize a "Kurdish entity" if the Kurds decide that that is what they want. He added that the Iraqi president's aim is to intensify the differences within the Iraqi opposition in order to weaken and fragment that opposition. Some major opposition forces are opposed to any step that would partition Iraq or pave the way for its partition.

### Opposition Group on Kurdish Secession

*PM1404124693 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 12 Apr 93 p3*

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "Rival Iraqi Group Forms New Opposition Grouping in London"]

[Text] London, AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI—An Iraqi opposition group concluded meetings in London last Friday with a statement distancing it from the resolutions adopted by the Iraqi National Congress on the issue of Kurdish secession.

The group, describing its meeting as the "deliberational meeting of the Iraqi opposition," said that it was considering holding a general and unifying conference of Iraqi opposition figures and parties. It added that it passed a recommendation recognizing the ethnic rights of the Kurds in Iraq, adding that the conferees would respect an appropriate formula governing relations between them [the Kurds] and the central government provided that formula is recognized by a legitimate elected government and an elected Iraqi parliament.

This new position on the Kurds is contrary to the position of the Iraqi National Congress, which has a collective Arab-Kurdish leadership including Mas'ud Barzani, Jalal Talabani, Shaykh Bahr-al-'Ulum, Hasan al-Naqib, and Ahmad al-Jalabi, who is the Executive Council chairman.

The conferees elected a 15-member central committee which then met and elected a seven-member executive committee with Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Arif as chairman. It also appointed Sa'd Salih Jabr as official spokesman, Sami Faraj 'Ali as official in charge of information, and Isma'il al-Qadiri as official in charge of the financial committee.

### Opposition Reports Executions, House Searches

*JN1504061093 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] The Iraqi National Congress, a London-based Iraqi opposition coalition, has affirmed that the Iraqi authorities have deployed approximately 30,000 troops around Baghdad in anticipation of riots.

The opposition coalition issued a statement stressing that Iraqi Army checkpoints have been set up along the roads and that Iraqi Army patrols conducted thorough house searches.

REUTER quoted arrivals from Iraq as saying that some Iraqi leaders have been apprehended and executed, and that security troops surrounded some Baghdad neighborhoods in the aftermath of an aborted attempt by a Shiite opposition group to kidnap Interior Minister Watban Ibrahim al-Hasan. The London-based opposition groups have said that Minister al-Hasan was wounded in a family quarrel with his brother Sab'awi al-Hasan [director of the Iraqi Public Security Department].

REUTER also quoted unconfirmed reports that former Interior Minister Samir 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Shaykhali had been executed.

### Mass Grave Found During Destruction of Dam

*LD1404190993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] A mass grave was discovered in the area yesterday by the Iraqi opposition after the destruction of a dam in Hur al-Emara in southern Iraq.

According to Iraqi opposition sources, a large number of men and women's corpses, who have been slaughtered en masse, can be seen in the grave. The sources, quoting an Iraqi intelligence officer captured by forces opposed to Baghdad, said: The dead are from the Iraqi opposition and Kuwaitis. [passage omitted]

### Engineers Clear Saddam Dam Area of Cluster Bombs

*JN1504084493 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Apr (INA)—Specialized teams of military engineers have continued to defuse the cluster bombs the U.S. aircraft dropped on the Saddam Dam area to the north of Mosul on 6 April.

AL-QADISIYAH, speaking for the Iraqi Defense Ministry, cites a responsible military source as saying that the enemy aircraft dropped three canisters containing 600 U.S.-made BLU-97 anti- personnel bombs. Each canister contained 200 bombs.

The paper says large numbers of these bombs did not explode after they were dropped from enemy aircraft flying at an altitude of seven km. It also says efforts by teams of military engineers continue to clear a large area of land covered by these bombs to prevent any incidents to vacationers and shepherds who frequent that region.

### RCC Members, Ministers Supervise Subdistricts

*JN1104195393 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 11 Apr 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Apr (INA)—In implementation of President Saddam Husayn's order, a number of Revolution Command Council [RCC] members, Cabinet ministers, and other officials with the rank of minister have started supervising the process of developing 30 subdistricts in Iraq's central and southern governorates, for which scores of millions of dinars were allocated. This measure is the first of its kind in the history of administration in the world.

In Babil Governorate, Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, adviser to the president, who is in charge of industry and oil, has started supervising the process of developing al-Madhatiyah Subdistrict; Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi has started supervising al-Kifl Subdistrict; Ja'far 'Abd-al-Karim al-Barzanji, chairman of the Executive Council of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region, has started supervising al-Qasim Subdistrict; and Khalid 'Abd-al-Mun'im Rashid, adviser at the Presidential Office, has started supervising al-Iskandariyah Subdistrict.

Oil Minister Usamah 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hiti had already started supervising the campaign of developing al-'Abbasiyah Subdistrict in al-Najaf Governorate. The minister met with al-Kufah District administrative officer and a number of officials in the subdistrict to acquaint himself with the service and cultural needs of the subdistrict. The minister urged the heads of the popular organizations and government departments and the sons of the subdistrict to effectively contribute to and make the campaign successful.

In al-Muthanna Governorate, Health Minister Umid Midhat Mubarak has started supervising the campaign of developing al-Najmi Subdistrict in the governorate. The minister met with al-Muthanna Governor Muhsin Khudayyir al-Khafaji, the heads of the branch and central departments, tribal chieftains, and citizens in the subdistrict and reviewed with them ways of developing the subdistrict in accordance with President Saddam Husayn's order.

In Maysan Governorate, technical and engineering cadres from the governorate's municipal and services departments this week will begin a large-scale campaign to implement President Saddam Husayn's initiative allocating 8 million dinars to promote the municipal and services conditions for the governorate's subdistricts of 'Ali al-Sharqi, [word indistinct], al-Salam, and al-'Adl.

During his meeting with heads of the administrative units, Maysan Governor Kamil Sajit 'Aziz explained the governorate's plan to implement this initiative whose field application will be supervised by some RCC members and ministers. He stressed the need to accomplish this campaign in a way befitting the sacrifices of the governorate's people in order to promote services in these units after working out the guidelines concerning the needs of the cities and villages in coordination with the mass organizations and dignitaries, provided that this does not change the city's basic structure and will highlight its cultural landmarks.

Minister of State Arshad al-Zibari today started to supervise the development of Hasan Subdistrict in the Wasit Governorate. He held an expanded meeting with heads of the services departments, tribe chieftains, and dignitaries to discuss ways to promote the subdistrict in light of President Saddam Husayn's donation, valued at 2 million dinars. The state minister called for increased efforts and capabilities, as well as for the mobilization of human and material resources and vehicles in order to accomplish the campaign for promoting the subdistrict in all walks of life and also in the cultural and social fields. He also called for working in accordance with new guidelines that will ensure the implementation of projects in record times provided that accuracy in both design and implementation is taken into consideration.

In al-Qadisiyah Governorate, technical and engineering cadres from the governorate's municipal and services departments this week will start a large-scale campaign to implement President Saddam Husayn's initiative in order to promote the municipal conditions in a number of subdistricts in this governorate.

During his meeting with heads of the administrative units today, al-Qadisiyah Governor Ahmad 'Abdallah Salih explained the governorate's plan to implement this initiative whose field application will be supervised by a number of RCC members and ministers.

## Rabin-Mubarak Talks in Ismailia Reported

### Rabin Returns Home

*TA1404171993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin returned this evening to Israel at the end of his meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, which dwelt mainly on the Palestinian issue. The prime minister told his host that Israel is prepared to discuss any issue with the Palestinians without any preconditions, if it is compatible with the letter of invitation to the Madrid conference.

Our correspondents report that one of the issues raised in the tete-a-tete session was the establishment of a committee on human rights in the territories. President Mubarak told his Israeli interlocutors that he had made it clear to the Palestinians that if they miss the upcoming round of talks they would be risking the possibility of the world forgetting all about them and turning to deal with other urgent issues. [passage omitted]

### Mubarak: Palestinians Will Go to Talks

*TA1404184893 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Studio talk between political correspondent Gadi Sukenik and anchorman Menashe Raz—live]

[Text] [Raz] You returned from Ismailia a short time ago. Will the Arabs, the Palestinians and the Syrians, report to the peace talks in Washington on 20 April?

[Sukenik] They will. In his report about the joint news conference held by Rabin and Mubarak, correspondent Ehud Ya'ari mentioned optimism, and he was right. That is exactly what was stated in public. According to Egyptian sources I spoke to after the news conference and before flying back to Israel, Mubarak unequivocally told Rabin that all the sides, including the Palestinians, would be reporting to the talks on 20 April. His statement apparently was based on his talk with 'Arafat yesterday.

[Raz] Could the Palestinians be reporting to the talks in exchange for gestures to be made by Israel, of which we are unaware?

[Sukenik] That is what many people in Israel thought, but it has transpired from the talks that Mubarak did not exert any pressure on Rabin. Quite the contrary, he finally accepted the Israeli position to the effect that all the sides—primarily the Palestinians—must report to the talks first; only then will gestures concerning the closure and the deportees be discussed.

[Raz] Perhaps the closure could be one of those gestures. In other words, the Palestinians may say: We will show up on 20 April, on condition that....

[Sukenik] It is now clear that there will be no such gestures; Rabin has said as much before. Now that Mubarak agreed with Rabin—he reiterated it several times today—that everybody must come to the talks first, and then discussions will be held on whatever they want, he actually has accepted the Israeli position. So no gestures are likely to be made before 20 April.

[Raz] Gadi, to wrap up this interview: Will the Syrians and the Palestinians come to the peace talks in Washington on 20 April?

[Sukenik] All of them will be there. As far as the Syrians are concerned, exactly what they told Mubarak remains to be clarified. The Egyptian president said al-Asad spoke to him about everything in exchange for everything, but he did not elaborate. Rabin apparently told Mubarak in their tete-a-tete session: You must talk to al-Asad and tell him that he must convince the Israeli people that he really wants a full peace. At this stage, this point remains open.

[Raz] Thank you and good night.

### Peres Discusses Talks

*TA1404195793 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1840 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Studio interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Yoram Ronen, Gadi Sukenik, and Dan Raviv; from the "Moqed" program—live]

[Text] [Ronen] We heard President Husni Mubarak at today's Ismailia summit explicitly say that al-Asad is prepared to give everything in exchange for everything—that is, full peace in exchange for full withdrawal from the Golan. Such a statement actually puts the ball back in our court. How do we respond to such a Syrian proposition?

[Peres] The problem is that what al-Asad calls a full peace is not even a partial peace as far as we are concerned.

[Ronen] A full peace along the lines of the peace with Egypt.

[Peres] No, he did not say that.

[Ronen] I am saying that.

[Peres] But you are not al-Asad, as far as I can tell. Al-Asad is not prepared to open embassies. The Syrians are actually saying accept UN Resolution 242 first. This resolution says that you must give us back all the territories but does not say that we must give you full peace. Their interpretation of peace does not include embassies, open borders, and other arrangements characteristic of full peace.

[Raviv] The question is whether everything means only the Golan Heights. Perhaps everything is everything.

[Peres] Clearly, everything is everything.

[Ronen] All the territories?

[Peres] Do you also mean Judaea and Samaria?

[Raviv] Definitely, when he says everything in exchange for everything what he means...

[Peres, interrupting] No, I think the Syrians will suffice with the autonomy because they will not wait five years for the permanent arrangement. They would like some kind of arrangement with the Palestinians, but that need not include the return of all the territories.

[Sukenik] Incidentally, Mubarak explicitly stated today that he was only referring to the Syrians. He could not exactly interpret what everything meant. He could interpret what everything meant with regard to the Israeli side—all the sovereignty—but he could not interpret al-Asad very well.

[Peres] Countries want everything for themselves but are prepared to accept a tiny morsel when it comes to others—the Palestinians, in this case.

[Sukenik] With regard to the Palestinians, there is talk now about a basket of Israeli gestures—such as allowing the return of old-time deportees, easing the return of the Hamas deportees, and the probable inclusion of Faysal al-Husayni in the Palestinian delegation—to be effected next week, when the Palestinians come to the talks. The public is under the impression that we are always giving in, that the talk is always about Israeli gestures and Israeli compromises, that this government is constantly making concessions. What about the other side?

[Peres] What did we gain by not making concessions in eight years? Terror and difficulties. What did we gain by Shamir standing like a rock? The population of Gaza trebled and increased in the rest of the territories. We paid with many victims and grief. What did we gain in those eight years when we stood strong and firm? The question now is what we want from the Palestinians. What we actually want from them is peace, goodneighborly relations, and a normal state of affairs. They can provide that only when there is an agreement.

The situation is asymmetric. The question is whether peace is made to show off or to make peace. If you want to make peace, you have no other choice. This is the way it is.

[Sukenik] Do you then agree with Mubarak that Israel must now give incentives to the Palestinians?

[Peres] This point is unclear, and we should clarify it. Israel has decided not to make any gestures whatsoever until 20 April.

[Sukenik] What about immediately after 20 April?

[Peres] There will be an exchange of gestures between us and the Palestinians immediately after 20 April. Moreover, peace is a process of exchanging gestures instead of exchanging blows. That is what it all boils down to. In negotiations, both sides must make gestures, and they will also have to make them.

[Ronen] What gestures do we expect the Palestinians to make toward us?

[Peres] First, to recognize the autonomy as a temporary solution for five years, to accept the responsibility stemming from this autonomy, to stop the terror, and to start behaving as good neighbors.

[Raviv] Those are gestures toward Israel? Those are gestures to promote the peace process they themselves want.

[Peres] My dear friend, nobody is doing anybody any favors. Both of us make gestures to attain peace. We are not talking about a couple falling in love at first sight. It is not a question of love. Two sides who quarreled, fought, and hurt each other—it was them who particularly hurt us—decided to put an end to it. How do they go about it? They reverse and do the exact opposite of what they have been doing to date. Israel may dig in its heels and parade the Likud's pride for another eight years, but what will we gain by it? After all, the Likud did not promote anything, and it ultimately gave in to all the demands of the Palestinians. It went to an international conference and agreed to a delegation that is actually acceptable to all, including the PLO. In my opinion, all this is empty rhetoric.

[Raviv] Mr. Peres, does our agreement to Faysal al-Husayni's participation in the Palestinian delegation constitute a digression from the so-called Madrid conference? Is it some kind of gesture attesting to additional future digressions from that formula?

[Peres] As far as I am concerned, it does not constitute any digression or gesture. Even when we were in the national unity government we said that Faysal al-Husayni and the likes of him could participate in the negotiations. This is one of the reasons we split with the Likud. So, it is small wonder that we are making good on our word. As you may recall, I said in my previous appearance on this program that I had met with al-Husayni and that I would meet with him in the future. Why not?

[Ronen] What did you discuss in your meeting with al-Husayni?

[Peres] As is the case with every dialogue, each side gets acquainted with the problems of the other side. After all, to really know what has to be done one must ascertain the weakest and strongest points. This calls for a continuous dialogue, which will continue in the future.

[Ronen] Mr. Peres, to conclude this chapter: We wonder why you did not accompany the prime minister to the Ismailia summit. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa accompanied President Mubarak to the talks, and we have the precedent set by Menahem Begin who would always take Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan whenever he went to a summit with Anwar al-Sadat.

[Peres] The arrangement we have is that I serve as the acting prime minister whenever he travels abroad. That

is why we cannot both travel at the same time; the same applies when it is the other way around. It is only natural that I should stay here. A Foreign Ministry official participated in the talks, and that is quite alright. We met before he left, and we discussed what we assumed would be raised in the talks. I spoke briefly with the prime minister after his return to Israel, and everything is coordinated.

[Raviv] Does this confirm that you and the prime minister will never be together in the future in any delegation dealing with the peace talks?

[Peres] Why should I commit myself? Every case will be discussed on its own merit. We are not writing the Bible. People might think that every politician is the prophet Moses. We are not writing the Ten Commandments or the Torah. We will discuss every case on its own merit and decide accordingly.

[Sukenik] Do you not feel that the prime minister deliberately keeps you away from focal points of political interest?

[Peres] First, that is very difficult to do. Second, this is my daily fare.

[Sukenik] What is?

[Peres] The political process is my daily fare.

[Sukenik] We thought you meant your daily fare was to be kept away from the focal points of activity.

[Raviv] That would not be a daily fare but a diet.

[Peres] I am sorry to disappoint you. Both the prime minister and myself serve one and the same purpose, and we are both loyal to it. We are committed to the people. We are not talking about the business of two people but about a commitment to the people who now want peace.

[Sukenik] Let us now discuss matters of substance. The peace talks will resume in Washington next week, and the intention is not to hold endless rounds but to conduct a continuous process with occasional intervals for consultations until white smoke comes out. Do you think this formula will work?

[Peres] I think so. This method is better than setting dates, then postponing them, and then reflecting about them. I suppose the negotiations will be continuous with intervals for consultations. I definitely consider it a very reasonable proposition, seeing that we seriously and sincerely want to make a decision in 1993. We have not changed our position.

[Raviv] Mr. Peres, in Ismailia today Mr. Rabin spoke about our willingness to make territorial concessions in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. At the same time, the government has continued with the closure in the territories indefinitely. Do you believe that, even if this has not been declared officially, we can discern here a tendency of separation from the territories in the direction of an independent Palestinian entity?

[Peres] Frankly, the closure was not planned beforehand. It came as a reaction to the terrible phenomenon of stabbings. Therefore, it constitutes a means and not a solution. Indeed, this closure revealed a very interesting thing: The entire Israeli population heaved a sigh of relief when it saw that the Arabs of the territories are living in the territories and the Israeli population is living in Israel without a constant need to take action and to hate.

[Raviv] Does this not unintentionally lead to a certain political conclusion in the framework of the operational activities in the field?

[Peres] While the closure is only a means, our basic intention remains intact. Contrary to the Likud, we know exactly where we want to go. We want to reach an interim solution and then a territorial compromise. We do not want to rule 2 million Palestinians. Our aim is very clear: The state of Israel must have a clear Jewish majority, and we must not rule another people.

[Raviv] You are known as having supported the Gaza-first formula. In light of the present circumstances, would you consider, in certain conditions, the possibility of returning Gaza to the Palestinians first.

[Peres] I do not think we will remain in Gaza, and the option of Gaza-first is viable. However, it is preferable to achieve this through negotiations.

[Raviv] If this is not attained in negotiations, would you consider a unilateral move out of Gaza?

[Peres] I would not like to break up the negotiations through side deals, but this is a possibility that I have never ruled out, and I do not want to retract from it. It is very possible that at some point it will serve as a way. I want to tell you that from what we have all learned it is possible to deduce that the real solution to the present problem will not be one of the obvious solutions but rather a solution which is less discernible. We have learned that reality has its own nature. We cannot tell it to adjust itself to every written word of the autonomy agreement. We are looking for a solution, and the way toward the solution can be full of creativity, imagination, and new suggestions, including the idea of Gaza-first.

[Ronen] Mr. Peres, during the last cabinet session the heads of the defense establishment expressed reservations about the continuation of the closure, claiming it could have serious consequences and bring about an explosion in the territories. I think that you also were not pleased about this prolonged closure. Minister Yosi Sarid said that the continuation of the closure can cause great hardship, including the danger of hunger in the territories. Many people are asking how long the closure will continue? When do you think will it be possible to remove this closure, seeing that it will not last forever?

[Peres] Look, despite the fact that different nuances were expressed in the cabinet session, I want to be fair toward the members who do not think as I do. None of the cabinet ministers wants to bring about a situation in which there will be hunger in the territories. We are responsible for the economic situation in the territories as long as we are the sole rulers in these territories. We have decided to examine the issue of the closure on a weekly basis. During the cabinet session I said—and I am repeating this here—that the problem of the Palestinians' work in Israel is not the problem of the Israeli economy, but rather that of the Israeli Government's responsibility for the territories. Today it was published that a third of the inhabitants of the territories work in Israel; no decent Israeli wants us to be depicted in the world as causing hunger in the territories. This holds for all the cabinet ministers without exception, and this is why we have decided to reexamine this issue every week.

[Ronen] Do you believe that Minister Sarid's fear of hunger in the territories is exaggerated?

[Peres] His fear is legitimate, but so far there is no hunger, and we will prevent such a situation. The government has also decided to extend its operations in the territories to create more jobs and employment sources.

[Sukenik] Is the closure a short-term remedy? Or does it constitute the beginning of a long-term solution, the start of the real separation between the territories and Israel?

[Peres] The separation should be the outcome of negotiations. There is no unilateral separation. I hope that before long we will attain an agreement regarding the right solution in the territories.

[Sukenik] Does the closure serve as a seed for this solution?

[Peres] The closure serves as a suggestion regarding how things will look when we reach an interim arrangement with the Palestinians.

[Raviv] However, beyond this general idea there is a real situation here, a situation which many people on both sides of the border are experiencing daily. Mr. Peres, does not the closure return us to the borders stipulated by the green line, where we are on this side and they on the other? For us, this situation is convenient in terms of our personal security situation.

[Peres] The closure deals with people rather than with borders. The permanent borders between us and the Palestinians will be determined only in the framework of the permanent arrangements, not now. The situation now is that wherever there is a Palestinian there is autonomy, and this is in my opinion how things will continue for the duration of the autonomy period, which should last for no more than five years.

[Raviv] Mr. Peres, the removal of the deportees was aimed at preventing terrorism and facilitating the peace process. This affair resulted, as a matter of fact, in the opposite results. Can you express your opinion in retrospect?

[Peres] I do not believe that the aim of the deportation was to facilitate peace. This is not why we deported 400 people.

[Ronen] But it was aimed at stopping terrorism.

[Peres] In the past we have already known how to put an end to terrorism. During the deportation it was clearly stated that this was only a temporary solution, and that it will not annihilate Hamas. The deportation was aimed at delivering an extremely sharp message both to Hamas and its opponents.

[Raviv] But this message was not delivered.

[Peres] The message was delivered; the deportation itself was a declaration. After all, the message could not have been sent by post. It is true that following the deportation there was an exacerbation of stabbing incidents, and this in turn led to the closure. Nobody planned this chain of events beforehand, but since they happened nobody can ignore them. At the same time it does not change our underlying conclusion.

[Ronen] The deportation, however, delayed the peace process by at least three or four months. Were it not for the deportation, the peace talks could have been resumed much earlier.

[Peres] We did not decide to implement the deportation out of the blue. It was rather a reaction to a situation which we did not invite. Let me be completely frank, even when one has clear objectives in mind, sometimes there are unplanned events which hamper the achievement of these objectives. Not everything depends on us, and believe me, there are some things which we would willingly forgo, such as the murders, the stabbings, the behavior of Hamas, the need to react to this behavior. This is the situation we must deal with, however, without losing sight of the basic solution.

[Raviv] Mr. Peres, this sounds very reasonable, but in reality what could happen is that when the closure is lifted the stabbings would only increase. The experts have stated that the frustration could exacerbate the stabbings, which would be counterproductive.

[Peres] Who are these experts? Did they predict the stabbings beforehand? Nobody can predict what will happen. It will either happen or it will not happen. If, God forbid, it continues, we will have to look for measures to counter it.

[Sukenik] According to your associates, Mr. Peres, in internal discussions you say things that sound somewhat different from the full support you give government policy publicly. Earlier you spoke about creativity. Well, according to your associates, you claim it is already possible to jump ahead, to take shortcuts. Regarding the Syrian issue, for example, you claim we can state that we are willing to give back sovereignty over this or that part, or even over the entire Golan Heights, and that you want to know what the Syrians are willing to offer us in return. Cognizant of the fact that the price is known in advance,

you want to put things directly on the table. The same holds true for the Palestinians; you want to take a shortcut and tell them how we see the final situation.

[Peres] There is a difference between putting things on the table and putting them before the microphone. No government member, including myself, is entitled to go beyond what has been offered in the peace negotiations. Otherwise we will have a ridiculous situation in which the government is holding negotiations while its members are being more generous and far-reaching than itself. This is inconceivable. Privately, however, I am constantly thinking what can be done in order to bridge the gaps and the differences. I also hold talks on this issue with the prime minister, and sometimes I raise it during the cabinet sessions too. At the same time, I am responsible for the government decisions. Let me tell you what I feel in this regard: I was the one who initiated the contest for leadership in the Labor Party, and at the time I was sharply attacked. Meanwhile this contest became the norm in all parties. There is a second side to this contest, however: After a decision is reached, it is my desire to show that I can respect this decision. There are norms of behavior which I follow. I am not a yes man or a parrot. I am entitled to think; I am obliged to think; I have to come up with my own ideas, which is what I am doing. My first loyalty is to peace. On the other hand, the norms of behavior are clear: I am responsible for the government decisions and I refrain from attacking these decisions. Occasionally I propose new ideas. It is no secret that on the issue of peace I believe that more stress should be laid on the essence of peace than on its price. The price of peace is fixed, but the essence of peace is open-ended. Moreover, I believe that the issue of peace depends mainly on us.

[Ronen] Your associates maintain that if you reach the conclusion over the next few months that the peace process is not advancing fast enough, you might behave differently and say publicly what you are saying privately at the present time.

[Peres] Look, as long as I can contribute to the peace process—even if quietly and in private—this is the decisive factor as far as I am concerned because I serve an issue. Neither am I a roadside bomb, ready to explode at any minute; I am a man serving an issue with patience and thoroughness, to the best of my ability. This is how I will continue to behave because in my opinion attaining peace today serves as a defense for Israel and the Jewish nation. Many people ask me what the difference is between the past and the present. In the past what we needed for defending Israel were tanks, and perhaps other things in Dimona and in other places. Today, in addition to what we have, we need a peace process, and a serious man must devote his life to this central issue rather than to administrative issues or occasional altercations.

[Raviv] Mr. Peres, you have said on more than one occasion that elections in the territories should be held at once. You may have relayed this opinion to the prime minister, but I do not know how much weight it carries with him. Do you think the time has come to hold elections in the territories?

[Peres] I think we must tackle a bigger problem. One of the most serious difficulties in the negotiations is to distinguish between the Palestinians in the territories and those in the diaspora. The greatest difficulty today is the mix-up between the Palestinians in the diaspora, represented by 'Arafat, and the need to attain an arrangement in the territories. The maximum Israel can do is to solve the problem of the Palestinians in the territories, who total almost 2 million people. It is neither within our power nor is it our intention to solve the problem of 5 million Palestinians in the diaspora. The question is: How does one distinguish between the diaspora and the people living here, without resorting to an artificial separation? Definitely, the best way to do it is through elections. The next question is when those elections should be held. Should they be held while the negotiations are under way or after we agree on the autonomy? This obviously is a question that must be discussed and on which there are various points of view.

[Raviv] What is your view?

[Peres] I think elections should be held as soon as possible, even as early as to enable them to conduct the negotiations.

[Raviv] You mean holding elections before the negotiations.

[Peres] I mean reaching an agreement about the elections while the negotiations are under way. The problem of the Palestinians is that they have an armed minority threatening an unelected majority. To become strong, this unelected majority must be elected and have real power. Moreover, when you are not an elected representative you must justify yourself every day. When you are elected—let us say for four years, like our own government—you can afford to be unpopular at least once a week, but that is not so if you must be popular every day. The Palestinians must justify themselves every day because they have not been elected. I say: Hold on! Go to your people and ask them for a mandate for four or five years so that you may conduct proper negotiations and take unpopular moves.

[Sukenik] Sir, you said in an interview with DAVAR last Sunday that you are critical of various aspects of the government's performance, such as the economy, immigrant absorption, and other issues, and that you would voice your criticism after the peace talks resume, which brings me back to another issue we raised earlier: You did not deny that you have other ideas with regard to the running of the peace negotiations. Could you give us a sneak preview of your criticism?

[Peres] These are two different issues altogether. On issues unrelated to the peace process, I voice my criticism at the right time and openly. For example, I have voiced my criticism with regard to immigrant absorption

because I want us to rectify the situation on time. I do not want to be perceived as a critic; that is not my job. My criticism does not hinder the negotiations or the government's performance, it simply directs attention to a most central subject.

[Sukenik] In brief, could you tell us what bothers you with regard to immigrant absorption?

[Peres] I simply think that we must make a greater effort to absorb immigrants in order to increase their influx to Israel.

[Ronen] Mr. Peres, we are coming to the end of our program. I would like to cite what Prime Minister Rabin stated before the elections and when he formed the government, that an arrangement would be attained within six to nine months. As is known, he has been proved wrong. You are more cautious, and you say that we will attain an agreement in the course of 1993. Can you make a safe bet today that we will attain an agreement with the Arabs in 1993?

[Peres] I am not a gambler, and neither is Mr. Rabin. He expressed his wish to attain autonomy within six to nine months, which I believe was sincere. Neither Mr. Rabin nor I can guarantee what the non-Israeli side, the Palestinians or the Syrians, will do. Unpredicted things happened. Hence, when I say I hope a decision will be made in 1993, it is our declaration of intent, just as the aforementioned wish was Mr. Rabin's declaration of intent. We are sincere and convinced that by dragging things out, as the Likud did, we will gain nothing and will only waste time and miss opportunities. We want to reach an arrangement, and if possible, in 1993.

[Ronen] However, it takes two sides to reach an agreement, and you are not yet certain that the other side will make every possible effort to attain it in 1993.

[Peres] I also want to persuade the other side. Our conversation here also has an Arab audience. I want to tell the Palestinians: You will gain nothing by procrastinating, as has been amply evident in the negotiations leading to the talks set for 20 April. You tried various ways, but to no avail. The people seated opposite you seriously want to attain an agreement in two phases. The sooner you get down to it, the better it will be for both sides. The Palestinians have no real and serious alternative other than suffering and shedding the blood of us all. There is no better date. You will gain nothing by waiting another year.

Therefore, this is also a process of persuasion. The date plays a role in this persuasion effort, and we definitely want to persuade our neighbors that we are serious about the need to attain an arrangement and to make a decision in the course of 1993 so as to shorten the suffering of all the sides: ours and theirs.

[Raviv] We will have to wait and see if they are persuaded. We have another seven months until the end of 1993.

[Peres] I repeat: A great deal depends on us.

[Raviv] Why does it not depend on them too? Why only on us?

[Peres] Because they do not have territories to negotiate, because they do not rule us, and because we have won the wars. Wars are not won by two sides; only one wins. Peace, however, must be won by both sides.

[Ronen] Mr. Peres, we must end our program. I would like to thank you for coming to the Moqed studio tonight. I also would like to thank my colleagues, Gadi Sukenik and Dan Raviv, and our spectators. Good night and see you next week.

### Proposal on Golan Mooted

*JN1504071693 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Excerpts] Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has announced that he is hopeful the ninth round of the Arab-Israeli peace talks will be held on 20 April, as scheduled. He stressed that his talks with President Mubarak underscored the means for achieving peace with the Arabs and Palestinians. [passage omitted]

Rabin left for Tel Aviv at the conclusion of his talks with Mubarak, which lasted for more than three and a half hours. These talks dealt with a host of new proposals to resolve the deportee issue and resume the peace process on schedule.

Finally, our radio has learned from informed diplomatic sources that Rabin informed the Egyptian president of a six-point Israeli proposal aimed at reaching a final peace agreement with Syria by the end of this year. These points provide for a substantial Israeli withdrawal from the Golan in return for Syrian recognition of Israeli strategic and security sites in the Golan—sites that would remain under Israeli sovereignty. The proposal also calls for Syria to separate the Golan dispute from the dispute over southern Lebanon. The proposal also calls for Syria to conclude a comprehensive peace agreement with Israel, and to contribute to solving some of Israel's water problems. Additionally, the proposal provides for Syrian endorsement of meetings between senior officials of the two countries, and for Syrian participation in the multilateral talks.

### Rabin on 'Tete-a-Tete'

*TA1504080593 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Apr 93 pp A1, A8*

[Report by Gay Bekhor]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Prior to being joined by other participants, President Mubarak and Prime Minister Rabin held a one- and-a-half-hour tete-a-tete yesterday without any protocol being recorded. Rabin, who later reported on the meeting, said that there is growing coordination between Egypt and Israel in the war against fundamentalist terrorism. He described the coordination between the two states on this issue as an important achievement.

Mubarak and Rabin agreed that Iran is behind Islamic terror and that there must be cooperation between the security establishments facing that terror. "Iran is a danger to the entire Middle East, not only to Israel," Mubarak told Rabin. [passage omitted]

Political sources in Jerusalem, who were updated on the Rabin- Mubarak meeting, expressed satisfaction last night with what they called "the identity of views" expressed in the meeting. Jerusalem was somewhat surprised by the approach taken by Mubarak, who did not pressure Rabin and did not call on Israel to make gestures toward the Palestinians in order to get them to return to the negotiating table. [passage omitted]

Senior political sources said that in his talk with Mubarak, Rabin raised new ideas regarding the substance of peace, but the two agreed that they would not divulge them before the talks are resumed and that they would be raised only within the negotiating framework. One of the ideas refers to an Israeli agreement to advance the elections in the territories and not wait until the completion of the autonomy negotiations. Rabin and Peres have been divided on that issue. Up until now, Rabin has rejected Peres' position that the process must be speeded up and the elections brought forward in order to establish an elected leadership which would receive a mandate from the Palestinian public and be freer to negotiate with Israel and make decisions. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 15 April in a page 3 report by Amnon Barzilay adds: "During the meeting, the subject of U.S. aid to Egypt and Israel came up. Rabin told Mubarak that they must coordinate on this issue. He warned that any cut in aid to one of the countries could influence the scope of aid to the other. Rabin said the high level of aid to Russia may also reduce aid to the Middle East."

[Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 15 April, in a report by Shim'on Schiffer on pages 1 and 15, adds: "In the private part of the meeting, the prime minister told his host that the present government will be more generous that its predecessors in its readiness to transfer powers to the self-governing authority of the Palestinians in the territories. Rabin also announced that Israel agrees that the principle of withdrawal from the territories captured in 1967 also refers to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip."]

### Change Urged in Policy on Palestinians

*TA1404101993 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 14 Apr 93 p 11*

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "Change the 'No Way Out' Atmosphere"]

[Text] One of the most important results of the deportee crisis, which held up the resumption of the peace talks, will probably be Israel's recognition of East Jerusalemite Faysal al- Husayni as head of the Palestinian team to the peace talks. That is, he will be accepted as the Palestinian in charge of the negotiating team, headed by Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, and the multinational talks team, headed by Dr. Muhammad al-Hallaj, who is a member of the Palestine National Council [PNC].

The peace process is thus taking a new course in which there are new opportunities but even graver dangers. There is no certainty that the Israeli Government is sufficiently aware of the importance of this development. Unless a comprehensive, far-reaching Israeli policy is formulated—which, above all, should be consistent and determined regarding the Palestinian issue—this new stage might collapse and take the entire peace process down with it.

The argument that the expected Israeli recognition of al-Husayni's status changes the Madrid framework is correct. In fact, that framework no longer exists. It is only an illusion that the political process is still moving within the framework of Baker's "window of opportunity." This window has been shut for quite a while. To understand the new parameters, we should recall the first diversion from the track laid for the Madrid conference. Despite his being a PNC member, Israel accepted Dr. al-Hallaj as head of the Palestinian delegation to the multilateral talks in Ottawa of the committee on refugees, and it does not really matter what the excuse was. It later became apparent that he is in charge of all the Palestinian delegations for the multinational track.

This means that the Madrid formula was broken in favor of the PLO and not for the benefit of the Palestinian representation from the territories. Anyone who follows the multinational discussions is aware that the representatives of the territories walk around like shadows and that PLO is actually running the show.

It is very probable that this state of affairs led Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to strengthen the Palestinian delegation by recognizing al-Husayni's status. If, however, he does not adopt a bold complementary policy—one that would not shift with the changing moods on the Jewish street—Rabin will be jeopardizing the entire process and might pull the rug from under the Palestinian stand in the peace process.

Al-Husayni not only needs Israeli recognition. Odd as it may seem, he needs Palestinian recognition both from the population in the territories and the PLO-Tunis.

One of the reasons for the decline in Palestinian support for the peace process is the feeling that the longer the talks last, the more their daily living conditions deteriorate. Shamir's government is the main culprit for these feelings, mainly because it exploited the peace talks to resume the settlement drive. Rabin, in his turn, did not take advantage of his coming to office to change the mood in the territories. His desk was loaded with recommendations on how to induce a new feeling of openness and goodwill on the Palestinian side, but he believed that unless the Palestinians pay an appropriate price he will make no gestures. Now, Rabin is forced to pay the same price and receive a lot less, if anything at all.

The problem is that al-Husayni is assuming leadership of the Palestinian teams just as a new and significant deterioration in their situation has taken place: the ongoing closure, which is turning the West Bank and Gaza into a ghetto.

Judging from Rabin's public statements, in which he takes pride in the closure, it appears that he fails to understand the dangers into which he is leading the political process. He is turning al- Husayni into a target. Instead of the Palestinian delegation offices in East Jerusalem becoming a center of national uplifting for the Palestinians, which would hoist the flagging sails of the peace process, they might become a center for demonstrations, disobedience, and protest—against Israel, themselves, and the peace process.

The policy of closure is in itself proof of the lack of thorough and consistent thinking and unnecessarily rocks the boat of negotiations. Rabin had sought a permanent closure on the West Bank already when he was defense minister. He wanted to introduce the magnetic card concept—as employed in Gaza—at checkpoints in the West Bank. The heads of the defense establishment had to exert a significant effort to make him abandon this idea. It seems that bad ideas never die, however; they just wait for new opportunities. Contrary to the defense minister, the defense establishment reached conclusions about the reasons for the outbreak of the intifadah and the means that should be employed to calm it, if it could not be put out altogether. One of the important means was to significantly improve the economic situation in the territories.

Professor 'Ezra Sadan [former Finance Ministry director general and leading economist] recently completed research in which he levels harsh criticism at the policy of economic competition between Israel and the territories and recommends giving a boost to the economy in the territories, introducing absolute economic openness between Israel and the territories, and canceling all acts of "separation."

Nevertheless, Rabin, then and now, is motivated by ideological considerations, primarily that of separation of the two nations based on the Alon Plan and the transfer of responsibility for the Palestinians in the West Bank to Jordan. He will not allow Sadan's recommendations—which, in the meantime, have become the policy of the Civil Administration—to spoil his ideological theories. It appears that Rabin fails to understand that recognizing al-Husayni does not coincide with the implementation of the Alon Plan. For many years, this plan has held up all practical dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians in the territories. There is a real danger that this plan will yet do more damage.

These are not just words. During the last round of talks in Washington, Jordan unofficially asked that Israel begin implementing steps for an economic separation from the territories, while encouraging the reestablishment of economic ties with Jordan. Jordan asked to be allowed freer economic involvement in the territories and that Jordanian firms—not only banks and insurance companies—be allowed to operate in the territories.

In principle, Jordan's offers should be accepted, but not in the awkward and disagreeable way Rabin has been doing it. Jordanian economic involvement is an important novelty that should be encouraged, but as things stand now, Rabin is attempting to force this connection on the Palestinians, and the results will be regrettable for all the parties involved: Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinians. Such things should be done carefully, following thorough review and thought and based on a well-organized plan. It appears that when it comes to generosity and goodwill, Rabin finds it hard to give wholeheartedly, but when it comes to decrees and a firm hand, he does not know when to quit, and he overdoes it.

If indeed Rabin sought this opportunity to bolster the ties between the West Bank and Jordan, recognizing al-Husayni at this time is only inviting another explosion in the peace talks.

Al-Husayni needs the PLO's recognition as well, and the current situation in the PLO regarding the delegation is very delicate. The delegation has its supporters in the PLO who welcome every Israeli step forward concerning al-Husayni's status, but it also has dangerous enemies. The bone of contention is the nature of the interim period. While the delegation is engaged in discussions to determine that nature, key circles in the historical PLO realize that after the transitional period, the PLO will never be as strong and determined as it is today. The transitional period will, in fact, establish a new Palestinian leadership. Rabin is also aware of this inter-Palestinian dispute, but it is doubtful that he knows how to act to prevent this dispute from bringing down the entire peace process.

Europe and the United States are also aware of this significant difficulty. During the "window of opportunities" days, the PLO was weak, and a daring Israeli Government with a real desire to reach a solution with the Palestinian delegation could have done wonders. Nevertheless, as soon as the

post-Madrid "euphoria" died away, it became evident that the Shamir government would not make use of the hour of grace that befell it.

Now, after Israel has recognized Dr. al-Hallaj as head of the Palestinian teams on the multinational track, it should be clear to Israel that the PLO is back in the picture and that it should be taken into consideration in order to avoid the creation of too large gaps between it and the Palestinian delegation headed by al-Husayni. The problem is that it is doubtful whether Rabin understands just how delicate the situation is. He will go on grumbling about the absence of an interlocutor on the Palestinian side, without really considering just how much Israel is at fault in this and what should be done to correct the situation.

Another problem casting its shadow on the achievement of al- Husayni's recognition is the issue of Jerusalem. It is well known that the closure was construed to cut off all of Jerusalem, East and West, from the West Bank. Recognizing al-Husayni against this background sharpens the problem of Jerusalem, and it is feared that the state of security in the city might indeed deteriorate. The closure has drawn the map of autonomy. If Greater Jerusalem will indeed split the West Bank into two parts, in addition to the settlement blocs that will further split the other parts of the territories, then there is no real difference between Shamir's municipal autonomy—in which settlement blocs would cut across the Palestinian municipal-autonomous areas—and Rabin's disjointed autonomy.

It is hard to understand on what Rabin based his hope of concluding the autonomy talks "within nine months." Just as with the closure, in splitting the territories with the Jerusalem barrier Rabin fell back on old plans from his Defense Ministry days—plans which the defense establishment had convinced him to drop.

The prime minister must realize that his agreement to promote al- Husayni must be one step within a general concept in which the Palestinians will feel better about the peace process, not worse. A separation between the two nations is a must, but it should be done very carefully, based on a phased plan, agreed on and coordinated with the Palestinian delegation. The PLO's threats should be taken into account, gaps between it and the delegation should be avoided, and the delegation's status should be bolstered by holding uninterrupted working sessions with it to discuss all the issues pertaining to the lives of the Palestinians in the territories, including the preparations for the separation. The separation must not be carried out along the lines of the anti-Palestinian, pro-Jordanian Alon Plan on the one hand, while the dangers posed by the PLO must be taken into account on the other. Rabin must truly grasp that once he decides to promote the standing of the Palestinian delegation, he must finally and unequivocally forsake the Alon Plan.

While expanding working relations with the Palestinian delegation is of the essence, gestures of goodwill are also important—especially after the harsh blows which the left-wing government, of all governments, has inflicted on the Palestinians. But the order must be reversed: It is the blows that must be measured and delivered only on the basis of immediate necessity, while it is the gestures that should be all out. The return of veteran deportees, deported in 1967, is currently being discussed. Why not make a sweeping declaration that all the deportees may return according to criteria to be determined by Israel and the Palestinian delegation? It is hard to tell what the atmosphere in the territories would have been today had such gestures been made when Rabin assumed his post as prime minister.

If, however, al-Husayni and his friends return from Washington after the next round of talks with the same sense of no way out, it is hard to believe that there will be a delegation from the territories facing the Israeli delegation.

### Katyusha Rockets Hit Galilee, South Lebanon

*TA1504043593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] Several katyusha rockets fell in western Galilee this morning. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. Qol Yisra'el's reporter in the north says also that several katyushas landed in the security zone of south Lebanon.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Gur says Israel will not stand by idly when she is attacked, and the Hizballah organization will pay a heavy price for its acts. But, he said, Israel has no reason to escalate tension in south Lebanon nor take any steps that could harm the peace process. Gur made the comments during a visit to the two soldiers wounded in Tuesday's roadside bomb in south Lebanon. [passage omitted]

### Arabs Wounded in Nabulus, al-Birah

*TA1404132493 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Four Arabs, three of them masked and carrying swords, were wounded this morning by Israeli soldiers' gunfire in the casbah of Nabulus. Upon encountering the masked men, the soldiers called on them to halt, and when they tried to flee the soldiers opened fire at them. Our correspondent in the territories Udi Segal reports that one of them was seriously wounded, while two others fled the scene and were later admitted to the Anglican Hospital with moderate wounds. A 23-year-old Arab woman was moderately wounded, apparently in the same incident.

A 16-year-old Arab boy was lightly injured by Border Police gunfire in al-Birah near Ramallah. The incident took place when a Border Police patrol arriving on the site ran into blazing tires and came under a hail of stones. The patrol opened fire, which resulted in the wounding of the youngster.

## Masked Man Shot in 'Isawiyah

*TA1404194593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] A masked man was shot in the stomach and another was captured in a shooting incident in the village of 'Isawiyah near Mount Scopus in Jerusalem. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that a police unit in the village encountered four masked men wearing IDF [Israel Defense Forces] uniforms and carrying swords and pickaxes. When the policemen called on them to halt, two of them tried to attack the policemen. One of the Arab youngsters was shot in the stomach and transferred in light to moderate condition to Hadassah-Mount Scopus Hospital. Another masked man was captured, and the other two managed to flee. Police troops are currently searching the area. Border Police reinforcements have been rushed to 'Isawiyah to prevent riots.

### Communist Paper Criticizes Exercises With U.S.

*JN1504094393 Amman AL-JAMAHIR in Arabic 15 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] Joint Jordan-U.S. military exercises have started in southern Jordan. A U.S. Navy ship has arrived at the port of al-'Aqabah to take part in these exercises, the second of their kind since the Gulf war.

The participation of a country like Jordan in military exercises with a state like the United States, which has a history of aggression against peoples, particularly our [Arab] peoples and countries, is a big infringement on our national sovereignty.

U.S. aggressiveness has inflicted deep wounds on Arab countries such as Iraq, and U.S. militarism is presently a spearhead for aggression against peoples all over the world. We do not think the return to joint exercises will serve any of Jordan's national interests or serve the country's balanced international relations.

### 'Sources' Cited on Talks on U.S. Ship Searches

*JN1404142093 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Apr 93 pp 1, 22*

[Text] Jordanian sources have stated that a team affiliated with the Bahrain-based U.S. communications center and the ship search organization located in the Tiran Straits, at the mouth of the Port of al-'Aqabah, have held talks with Jordanian shipping carriers on the searches to which al-'Aqabah-bound ships are subjected.

AL-DUSTUR has learned that the Jordanian shipping carriers affirmed that the searches conducted at present are not meant to enforce the embargo imposed on Iraq, but rather to besiege Jordan. The rationale they provided to explain their view stipulated that Iranian, Turkish, Lebanese, and Syrian ships, as well as other foreign ships, are unloading their shipments of medicine, food, and other materials which find their way to Iraqi markets without being subjected to any searches, as is happening at al-'Aqabah.

The sources added that since September 1992, Jordan has tightened its control measures along the border with Iraq. Besides, the sources maintained, Jordan previously enforced sufficient measures at the port and in its free zones. According to these measures, Iraq-bound commodities were subjected to direct supervision by customs authorities. Jordan, the sources noted, is complying fully with UN resolutions, whereas the door is open for other countries to violate these resolutions.

The Jordanian sources declared that the issue of scaling down search procedures was discussed with the U.S. side.

Jordanian shipping agents also demanded an end to all searches to which ships bound for al-'Aqabah are subjected. They also asked that the siege imposed on the port be completely lifted. They pointed out that losses sustained by Jordan's trade and industrial sectors as a result of additional costs created by the search operations last year totaled approximately $60 million.

### Minister on Possible Reduction in UNRWA Services

*JN1404132093 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir said that the Jordanian Government is following closely, at the highest levels, talk about the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] possibly reducing its services to Palestinian refugees in Jordan.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, the foreign minister said that Jordan rejects discrimination in services offered to refugees in host countries, adding that their cause and their basic needs are the same wherever they may be.

He noted that using financial difficulties as a premise for the possible move is not convincing, especially since UNRWA can find means to cover its deficit without reducing the minimum services it currently provides.

The minister said that Jordan has endured many burdens as a result of UNRWA's reduction of services in the past. He noted that Jordan cannot endure more burdens, especially since it is still facing the consequences of the return of hundreds of thousands of returnees as a result of the Gulf crisis.

### Officials 'Surprised' by Kuwaiti Minister's Remarks

*JN1404115293 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14 Apr 93 pp 1, 5*

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman—Jordanian officials expressed surprise Tuesday over Kuwaiti comments that the emirate and Saudi Arabia were not yet ready to normalise relations with Jordan and said it could be another form of pressure on the Kingdom.

"We cannot really understand the reasoning of the Kuwaitis, and we are surprised at the statements," said a senior official. "The only explanation we can come up with is that it is an indirect form of pressure on Jordan as we head for resumed peace talks (with Israel)," added the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Perhaps they (the Kuwaitis) want us to head in a specific direction and are using the issue of relations as leverage," the official told the Jordan Times. He declined to elaborate.

The Kuwaiti comment that the emirate is not willing to normalise ties with Jordan was made by its foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al- Ahmad al-Sabah, in an interview published in the London-based ALI- HAYAH newspaper.

"We and the Kingdom (of Saudi Arabia) have a unified position that normalising relations with Jordan needs time," Shaykh al-Sabah was quoted as saying.

The minister accused the Jordanian media of "slander and defamation and offensive statements" against Kuwait, and said "...even the Iraqi press is quoting the Jordanian press."

The reference was particularly surprising since the Jordanian press has been refraining itself from criticising Kuwait or any other Gulf state in the past several months.

Two Jordanian newspapers Tuesday hit back at Kuwait.

Shaykh al-Sabah also ruled out normalising relations with Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and said Palestinians, the largest expatriate community in Kuwait before the August 1990 Iraqi invasion, would not be allowed to return to the emirate.

Kuwait's relations with Jordan and the PLO as well as Yemen and Sudan were strained by what the emirate's regime saw as their support for Iraq in the Gulf crisis and the ensuing war which ended the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait in February 1991.

Jordan has repeatedly stated that it was not supporting Iraq by refusing to join the American-led Western-Arab alliance which fought Iraq and by calling for a diplomatic solution to the crisis.

The Kingdom's efforts to explain its position after the war have been in vain in the face of Kuwaiti and Saudi indifference, and His Majesty King Husayn has said that Amman had given up its endeavours, leaving it to time to mend the strain.

In a strongly-worded speech at the opening of an Arab labour conference here last week, the King called for Arab reconciliation but indicated that Jordan was not willing to bow to any pressure.

Saudi Arabia, one of the leading Arab partners in the anti-Iraq alliance, has been demanding a "public apology" from Jordan for its stand during the Gulf crisis. And the King has ruled out such a gesture, saying Jordan had done nothing to apologise for.

"It seems the Kuwaitis are still living under the shadow of the Gulf crisis and cannot think clearly ad understand Jordan's position," the senior official said Monday. "Perhaps they don't want to."

"One would have thought that things were looking up for inter-Arab relations, particularly after the Arab labour conference," the official said. "But, it seems, the Kuwaitis have different ideas and approaches."

The Amman conference was the first Arab conference to be held in Jordan after the Gulf crisis and was attended by labour ministers from 16 Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia and all other Gulf states except Kuwait, which sent its labour undersecretary.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, as well as other Gulf states, have cut off their financial assistance to Jordan. The senior official said Jordan was not seeking renewed aid through normalisation of relations.

Jordan has made it clear that it is not looking for assistance and they (the Gulf states) know it very well," he said.

In his comments to Al-HAYAH, Shaykh al-Sabah said Kuwait was ruling out normalised relations with Iraq as well as the PLO, but said he was "differentiating between the Palestinian cause and the PLO and its officials led by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat."

"The people of Kuwait suffered a lot of their hands [as published] and are so disgusted with (Mr. 'Arafat) that they cannot tolerate hearing his name," Shaykh al-Sabah was quoted as saying.

On another front, the Kuwaiti minister defended his country's apparent lifting of the Arab boycott of Israel by saying he expected other Arab countries to do so "when their interest requires so."

He also asserted that "there were basic disagreements among Arab countries over the boycott of Israel when it was imposed.

"Some of them, particularly the Arab Maghreb states, did not believe in the boycott," he said.

## Daily Views King's Speech on Bosnian Muslims

*JN1404110693 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Apr 93 pp 1, 21*

[Editorial: "King Husayn's Resounding Call and the Need for an Islamic Summit"]

[Text] No leader has talked about the issue of the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina as King Husayn did in his message to the kings, presidents, and amirs of the Arab and Islamic countries. Only a true leader can say what King Husayn said in his message. This message not only talks about the magnitude and depth of a real tragedy, it reveals the extent of indifference and political and ethical degradation with which many are treating this tragedy, especially the so-called international legitimacy and its alleged concern for peace, stability, and justice in the world.

King Husayn's message is a resounding cry in the ears of the international community deafened by the new world order and to the hearts of all those who claim concern over human rights. This message expresses feelings of alarm over the plight facing the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina simply because they are Muslims and because there are some in this world, especially in the West, who want a new Crusader war in which mutual grudges are the same as the grudges of the first Crusader war, and whose tragedies, severity, and massacres are much greater because of what is in the hands of the

killers in terms of military superiority and arrogance. The victims, meanwhile, have nothing of this.

King Husayn's message clearly, courageously, and bitterly refers to the Zionist-Western alliance, which Israel succeeded in establishing, against Islam and Muslims. Many wars started under the premise of confronting Islamic fundamentalism, so called by the spiteful alliance. The first such war is not the war of annihilation against the Iraqi people; and, the war against the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina will certainly not be the last. His Majesty King Husayn did not hide the negligence which the Yugoslav crisis has received. Indeed, he also referred to what has become clear in the minds of Muslims concerning this negligence, which reinforces their fear about the existance of a real war against them. Evidence is the stand of the UN Security Council, the five major powers, and most Westerners—a stand which is characterized by timid condemnation. Moreover, this stand does not hide the thrill of annihilating Muslims, destroying their holy place, raping their women, and slaughtering their children.

We call for confronting this tragedy and responding to King Husayn's call and warnings by holding an Islamic summit based on our commitments to Islam and concern for Muslim issues. This summit would expose the falsehood of the West, emphasize its unethical hypocrisy, and place everyone before their responsibilities toward defending the divine messages and protecting them from the Zionist-Roman conspiracy. This conspiracy is led by Israel and all those who claim concern for justice, democracy, and human rights, except if the issue deals with Arabs or Muslims. Convening this summit cannot wait. Any Muslim leader or citizen will be cursed if he does not adopt a political and ethical stand toward the tragedy of Bosnia-Herzegovina as required by the mission of Islam. Otherwise, the fire will reach and destroy all our homes while we hide behind our small differences and even smaller disagreements. There is no power and no strength save in God.

## License Granted to 17th Political Party

*JN1404083993 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14 Apr 93 p 3*

["Special to the JORDAN TIMES" by Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—The number of legalised political parties in Jordan Tuesday reached 17 with the licensing of the Arab Ba'th Progressive Party (ABPP).

"Our party will seek to achieve social justice, equality and equal opportunities for all citizens; and above all, it will spare no efforts in cementing national unity and in extending continued support to the Palestinian people to enable them to establish their independent state on Palestinian soil," said Fu'ad Dabbur, the party's spokesman.

Expressing deep satisfaction over Minister of Interior Jawdat al- Subul's announcement Tuesday that the party has been legalised, Mr. Dabbur said that he highly values the democratisation process in Jordan and that his party would strive to support, deepen and protect this process so that Jordan would serve as a model for other nations.

The ABPP has repeatedly confirmed that democracy remains the only ideal formula that can guarantee for each citizen the right to freedom and dignity and enable him to become productive and contribute towards the construction of his nation and capable of defending the homeland, said Mr. Dabbur.

"Our party believes that democratic rule, and genuine popular participation in the decisionmaking process create an oasis of security and stability," added the spokesman.

"Our Jordanian people are pan-Arabists by nature, and are known to cherish a true sense of national belonging; and for this reason the Jordanians have been struggling to attain pan-Arab unity, he continued.

Mr. Dabbur said that the ABPP will strive to help Jordanians attain their aspirations in pan-Arab unity which is the only way for the salvation of the Arab Nation and the only way leading to progress, freedom, power and a decent life.

In this regard, he added this party pledges to dedicate its struggle to attain solidarity and unity among the Arab States and do all in its power to help the Arab countries achieve unity.

The ADPP had submitted an application to the Interior Ministry to obtain a licence in February 1993, in accordance with the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution, the National Charter and the 1992 Political Parties Law.

The application was signed by 76 founding members.

### Israel Sending Reinforcements to Security Zone

*NC1504104393 Paris AFP in English 1027 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Tyre, Lebanon, April 15 (AFP)—Israel on Thursday sent an armoured artillery brigade into the "security zone" in south Lebanon to boost its forces after the killing of three soldiers, security sources said.

Some 1,000 troops began deploying in the region from dawn, and eight tanks and artillery batteries were sent to strategic points, the sources said.

Israel keeps a permanent force of around 1,000 soldiers in the occupied strip along the border, backed by 3,000 militiamen from the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army militia.

Several Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanon exploded Thursday in the "security zone" and over the border in the Galilee region of Israel, Israeli military sources said. They landed in unpopulated regions causing neither injury nor damage.

Israeli state radio reported that Hizballah had set off the Katyushas.

Meanwhile a previously unknown group, the Palestinian Revolutionary Army Organisation, claimed an attack which wounded an Israeli soldier on Wednesday.

The group issued a statement in Beirut saying its guerrillas had attacked and destroyed Israeli tanks at the border in its first operation.

Israel earlier reported that one of its soldiers had been wounded when shots were fired at a tank inside the "security zone."

The pro-Iranian Hizballah claimed responsibility for a bomb attack Tuesday that killed three Israeli soldiers in the zone.

### Location of Reinforcements Reported

*NC1504113893 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Citing security sources in the south, AFP reported that Israel deployed an artillery brigade along the occupied border strip today. The sources added that well over 1,000 troops began deploying in various areas in the occupied strip at dawn today. Ammunition supplies were brought in during the day.

According to the sources, four tanks were deployed in the Yarin position in the western sector and four others in al-Khiyam plain in the eastern sector. Four 155-mm artillery pieces were deployed in the Hula plain, five others in al-Khiyam plain, and four artillery pieces were deployed on the outskirts of Bayt Yahun in the western sector.

### Six Army Personnel Wounded in Blast

*NC1504112493 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Six Lebanese Army servicemen were wounded today when an explosive charge went off as their patrol was passing on a road in Jabal Safi at 1100 today. Two have been evacuated to the Military Hospital in Beirut and four to the Jazzin Hospital.

### Abu-Nidal Associate Killed in Sidon 14 Apr

*NC1504060993 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Faysal Salih, an official in the Fatah-the Revolutionary Council, was killed in Sidon yesterday. Unidentified gunmen opened fire at Salih in his house as he was carrying his six-month old son, killing them both instantly.

[Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic at 0500 GMT on 15 April in a similar report adds: "In southern Lebanon, police sources have stated that Faysal Salih, an official of the Fatah-Revolutionary Council led by Abu-Nidal, along with his six-month old child, have been killed by bullets.

["The sources explained that unidentified men entered Salih's home in Sidon yesterday evening and shot him, using machine guns. Nobody has thus far claimed responsibility for the assassination.

["It is to be recalled that assassinations and counterassassinations involving the Yasir 'Arafat-led Fatah Movement and the Abu-Nidal-led Fatah-Revolutionary Council take place from time to time."]

### Prime Minister Returns From Damascus 14 Apr

*NC1504063693 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri returned to Beirut from Damascus this evening after meeting Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. In a predeparture statement, al-Hariri praised the results of his meeting with President al-Asad, who reasserted Syria's support for Lebanon. Al- Hariri said consultations and coordination with fraternal Syria on all issues, especially the peace process and subsequent stages, will continue to enhance the unified Arab position.

### Kurdish Leader Talabani Meets PKK's Ocalan

*NC1404173593 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1605 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpt] Brother Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, met with Abdullah Ocalan, leader of the Kurdish Workers Party [PKK], in Lebanon on Monday. They are expected to meet again to discuss extending the cease-fire that will expire on Thursday. An informed source told the London-based Arabic newspaper AL-HAYAH in its Wednesday issue

that Talabani expects Ocalan to declare an extension of the cease-fire at a news conference he will hold in al-Biqa' on Friday or Saturday. Brother Talabani may attend the news conference.

AL-HAYAH said that brother Talabani arranged the meeting between Ocalan and the Turkish Kurdistan Democratic Party [al-Hizb al- Dimuqrati al-Kurdistani al-Turki] as part of attempts to strengthen the Kurdish movement parties in Turkey. These attempts began with a meeting in Damascus between PKK leader Ocalan and Kemal Burkay, leader of the Kurdistan Socialist Party, and the signing of a cooperation agreement. [passage omitted]

**Fadlallah: U.S. Seeks Israeli 'Triumph'**

*NC1504063593 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has said that Israel has a vital interest in concluding peace with the Arabs. He said the United States seeks to enable Israel to triumph over the Arabs through peace.

Fadlallah was speaking during a memorial service one week after the death of Yusuf Shu'aytu [not further identified].

## Afghanistan

### Hekmatyar Demands Rabbani Agree to Elected Cabinet

*LD1404202193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Golboddin Hekmatyar threatened Rabbani's government with waging another war. In an interview yesterday, the Afghan prime minister said a war will break out if Borhanoddin Rabbani does not agree to his elected cabinet. Hekmatyar said only one other opportunity was left for the establishment of peace and Borhanoddin Rabbani must take advantage from it. In the interview, leader of the Afghanistan Islamic Party denied the participation of the party forces in the few recent days' attacks on Kabul. Kabul Radio said tens of rockets hit the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul, and consequently many civilians were killed or wounded. According to the report, the missiles hit the residential areas of the city center and surroundings of Presidential Palace and the northern suburbs of Kabul. Yesterday's attack has been the fiercest attack since signing in March of the peace agreement in Islamabad by the seven rival Afghan groups.

## Bangladesh

### Zia, India's Rao Discuss Ganges Water Dispute

*BK1404120793 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in Bengali 1440 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The seventh summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, SAARC, ended in Dhaka on 11 April with the declaration of a [word indistinct] and pledge to eradicate poverty from the South Asian region within the shortest possible time. Addressing a news conference after the summit, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, the newly-elected SAARC chairperson, said that the seven SAARC member countries held very frank, sincere, and constructive discussions and exchanges of views giving top priority to issues of common concern. The leaders were able to take a number of important decisions including acceleration of efforts to eradicate poverty from South Asia.

The new SAARC chairperson told a crowded news conference at Hotel Sonargaon after the SAARC summit on the night of 11 April that she would sincerely continue all possible efforts for the resolution of South Asian regional issues. She sought the cooperation of seven members of SAARC in making the organization more effective in eradicating poverty and illiteracy and resolving other problems of South Asia. It may be mentioned here that the top SAARC leaders in the Dhaka Declaration have expressed their resolve to eradicate poverty from the region within the shortest possible time, if possible by 2002. They said that priority should be given to provision of food, [words indistinct] employment, and primary education. They reached consensus on formulating a number of guidelines on this important matter and agreed to increase regional cooperation in meeting the challenge and exchanging mutual experiences.

SAARC Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia held talks with Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao on resolving the Ganges water sharing issue. Begum Khaleda Zia said the Indian prime minister assured her in this regard and said that a summit-level meeting between Bangladesh and India would be held soon. A summit-level meeting between Bangladesh and India had earlier been suggested in order to resolve the Ganges water sharing issue. Only a few days ago a ministerial- level meeting between Bangladesh and India was held, but it failed to make any concrete decisions. Since then it has been felt that a summit-level political decision is necessary to resolve this long- standing issue. It goes without saying that resolution of the Ganges water sharing issue has become a matter of life and death for Bangladesh. Unilateral withdrawal of almost all the water from the Ganges at Farakka has turned vast areas of Bangladesh along the Ganges into an almost desert-like region. Lack of water has seriously hampered agriculture, damaged the environment, and forced hundreds of thousand of people to face serious problems and threats to their lives and livelihood.

From the outset, Bangladesh has made efforts for fair sharing of the Ganges' water through peaceful negotiations. But regrettably, the problem has remained unresolved so far. What has resulted so far is numerous meetings and negotiations between the two countries at various levels. We hope the two close neighboring countries will strive for a speedy resolution of the issue in light of the existing friendly bilateral relationship and in the spirit of SAARC.

Referring to the agreement signed by the seven countries on the establishment of a SAARC preferential trading arrangement, SAARC Chairperson and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said the SAARC leaders have decided to take necessary and specific steps in this regard. The South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement treaty reflects the political willingness of SAARC countries to speedily accelerate trading cooperation between member nations. It may be mentioned here that the pace of cooperation among SAARC countries in the past in the core economic sectors has been comparatively limited. The seventh SAARC summit has emphasized intensification of the economic cooperation program.

It is gratifying that during an exclusive meeting between Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Prime Minister Narasimha Rao after the SAARC summit—the meeting lasted more than 30 minutes—the Indian prime minister told Begum Khaleda Zia that he would soon hold a meeting with her with specific proposals on the short and long-term resolution of the Ganges water issue. This

undoubtedly is evidence of significant progress in the Bangladesh-India bilateral relationship.

### Daily Views Import Expenditures, Export Income

*BK1304080193 Dhaka DAINIK ITTEFAQ in Bengali 1 Apr 93 p 12*

[Text] The export earnings of Bangladesh during the first seven months of the current fiscal year stood at Taka 5480.28 crore while its import expenditure stood at Taka 8124.26 crore.

This was disclosed at the parliamentary standing committee meeting of Commerce Ministry held yesterday with Commerce Minister M.K. Anwar in the chair. The meeting was informed that the import and export target for the current fiscal year has been fixed at Taka 10,500 crore and Taka 9,750 crore respectively. So far 58.33 percent of the import target and 56.21 percent of the export target has been achieved.

Items which are being imported include machinery, dairy products, edible oil, oil seeds, pulses, onion, cement, coal, and cotton. On the other hand goods which are being exported from the country include frozen food, tea, leather, raw jute, jute goods, fertilizers, hosiery items, and readymade garments.

The meeting stressed need to increase the volume of exports and reduce imports. It also emphasized need to import more machinery for setting up industries and modernization of the country's dairy industry. Discussions were also held on measures to boost exports.

### Newspaper on Implementation of Aid Projects

*BK1504092693 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 Apr 93 p 1*

[By Staff Correspondent]

[Text] The donor countries and lending agencies including the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank have expressed their dissatisfaction over the slow pace of utilisation of the Annual Development Programme, ADP, fund in Bangladesh.

A Planning Ministry source said that the stricture of the donors, just a few days ahead of Bangladesh Aid Consortium meeting in Paris, was a matter of concern to the country. He added that the Government and tbe implementing agencies had been asked by the donors to expedite the pace of the utilisation of the ADP fund and ensure the implementation of the projects in due time.

The utilisation of ADP fund fell short of the target set for the first half of the current fiscal year. Only 27 percent of the total ADP outlay was utilised during the first six months (July- December) of the 1992-93 financial year against the target of 35-40 percent utilisation, according to the Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division, IMED, of the Planning Commission.

The utilisation rate during the corresponding period last year was about 22 percent. The five percent increase in the utilisation of the ADP fund was the result of repeated pressures from the donors. The Government became worried about the poor utilisations of the ADP fund in the first half of the current fiscal year. It seems that the target of the utilisation of the ADP fund in the rest of the six months of the financial year cannot be achieved.

In the current fiscal year, Taka 8,650 crore was earmarked for ADP involving 881 projects in different sectors. Only Taka 2,363 crore (about 27 percent of the total ADP outlay), of which Taka 1,077 crore in local currency and Taka 1,286 crore from foreign aid, have been utilised during July-December period.

According to the IMED, 15 ministries and division did not spend a single paisa during the first half of the fiscal year while 28 ministries and division spent less than 27 percent of the funds allocated to them.

The IMED in a report said that 30 implementing agencies which were allocated Taka 132 crore with Taka 25 crore in foreign exchange did not use the fund at all. No progress was made in using the funds for 186 projects which were sanctioned Taka 905 crore involving Taka 361 crore in foreign aid, a report observed.

However, the pace of project implementation by 16 ministries and divisions, which received substantial portion of ADP fund, achieved 82 percent target.

In the first six months, Taka 1,453 crore was allocated to these ministries and divisions of which Taka 1,185 crore achieving 82 percent target for these projects in power, railway, and industrial sectors.

In a recent review, the IMED attributed lack of initiative, inclusion of new projects in the original ADP, excessive projects, suspension of credit by donors, zero-utilisation of funds by the implementing agencies and poor performance to the slow pace of utilisation of the ADP fund.

But another source at the Planning Commission, who spoke on condition of anonymity, cited different conditionalities of donors as the reasons for delay in implementing the projects. For example, he said, many donors imposed conditions for the appointment of foreign consultants and delay on their part in nominating consultants often hampered the starting of the project.

He also added that frequent shifting or transfer of executive in charge of projects also disrupted the implementation of the project in due time. He pointed out that different ministries, division and department did not comply with the directive to hold monthly evaluation meetings.

The IMED suggest that the Government should ask the defaulting ministries to expedite the utilisation of the funds. Otherwise, it apprehend that the money be diverted to other deserving projects.

## India

### 'Hardcore Terrorist' Surrenders in Punjab

*BK1404155593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] In Punjab, a hardcore terrorist, Kulwant Singh, surrendered before the chief minister at Chandigarh today. Carrying a reward of over 10 lakh rupees, he was involved in hundreds of killings. With this the number of militants [who have] surrendered has gone up to 700, including 20 hardcores.

### Narcotics Worth 53 Crore Rupees Seized

*BK1504033693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] The Border Security Force seized narcotics worth 53 crore rupees in a village in Rajasthan yesterday. The seizure from the (Natchana) village of Jodhpur District included 52 kilograms of heroin and 438 kilograms of charas. A PTI [Press Trust of India] report from Jaipur said three persons have been taken into custody in this connection.

### Commitment to Human Rights Declaration Reaffirmed

*BK1404162293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] India has reiterated its commitment to the universal declaration of human rights and international covenants recognizing the right of education for all. Speaking on the third day of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference in New Delhi, Mrs. Pratibha Patil said India also supports the Thailand Declaration of education for all by the year 2,000. She urged the conference to lay emphasis on the cultural dimensions of the developments. She said the educational syllabus in India is designed to promote the country's cultural heritage, democracy and secularism, equality of sexes, protection of environment, and removal of social barriers. Mrs. Patil, however, cautioned that formal education may not be sufficient to strengthen the roots of democracy.

### CCEA 'Delicenses' Some Industries

*BK1404161193 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] The Government has delicensed the manufacture of motorcars, [word indistinct] goods like refrigerators, air conditioners and washing machines, and raw hides and skins and patent leather. The decision was taken by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs [CCEA] which met in New Delhi this morning. With this the list of industries requiring compulsory licensing has been reduced from 18 to 15.

According to an official spokesman, the Cabinet Committee also approved a number of multi-crore projects in oil, gas, and power sector. These including setting up of an ammonia replacement project in Kerala, construction of transmission lines, including Kishanpur-Mogha transmission line. The setting up of LPG [liquified petroleum gas] import facility at Kandla has also been approved. The project, which will cost 160 crore rupees, will facilitate imports of six lakh tons of LPG every year. On completion of this project, 35 to 40 lakh additional new LPG connections will be possible.

The CCEA also approved the takeover of the Feroze Gandhi (Unshaha) thermal power project in Rae Bareily District by the National Thermal Power Corporation. The project, with an estimated cost of 925 crore rupees, was undertaken by the Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Nigam [State Electricity Board].

The Cabinet Committee has also cleared the awarding of the contract for exploration of oil and natural gas in the Gujarat-Kutch onshore basin to a consortium of firms belonging to the United States, Australia and India.

## Iran

### President: U.S., West Wrong About 'Blackmail'

*LD1404120493 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Excerpts] President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived this morning in Kerman city at the head of a delegation. The purpose of the trip is to meet the inhabitants and review the problems of the province of Kerman. Our correspondent reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] [Passage omitted] President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was given an official welcome by the representative of the leader and the Friday prayer leader of Kerman, the governor-general, clergymen, military and law enforcement commanders, and local officials. [passage omitted]

After the welcome ceremony, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani left for the Martyr Salimikiya Stadium to meet families of martyrs and various strata of the inhabitants of Kerman. Along the length of the 10 kilometer route from the airport to Takhti Hall, he received an unprecedented welcome from the Kermanis who gathered in concentrated numbers on both sides of the Islamic Republic Boulevard to see their beloved president. [passage omitted]

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani attended the first gathering of the people of Kerman and met the families of martyrs in the Takhti Hall. In the course of remarks, he said: The joy of seeing you, families of self-sacrificers, at the start of my visit to the province of Kerman is highly valuable to me. [passage omitted]

After his meeting with the families of martyrs, the president of Islamic Iran attended a huge and splendid

gathering of the people of Kerman in the Martyr Salimikiya Stadium. The president praised the Kermani people for their relentless presence. He said: The meaning of real democracy is that the masses should be present on the scene. The presence of the people on the scene is the best exercise of democracy and I am sure that political observers understand but just ignore their consciences and form their judgements on the basis of their own colonialist goals and against justness. It is simplistic to imagine that those who rely on popular mass support back terrorism.

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] Those who are sitting in the White House and other places and think that by blackmail and propaganda they will turn our people despondent are making a grave mistake. [cries of God is great and other slogans from the crowd] We regret, we regret that propaganda blow-horns are in the hands of arrogant powers and they do not let all the dimensions of the nation's historic epic-makings to be reflected in the world because they oppose these things. They lie when they say that they want to support popular government [hukumat-e mardomi], people's will, and people's votes. They are the same people who, when in Algeria 80 percent of the people voted for the Islamic movement, the Westerners gave the green light to military personnel in Algeria to crush those 85 percent [as heard] of the people and annihilate them. They said explicitly that this was because they did not want a repeat of the history of the revolution in Iran. Well, what kind of a claim is this? That they should talk so much about supporting democracy but trample under feet in this way 80 percent of the votes. [end recording]

The president pointed to the permanent presence of the people on the scene and noted: The Islamic Revolution of Iran is strong and alive with the support and backing of the people and however much pressure the enemies bring to bear upon themselves, this revolution will prosper more.

### Further on Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Comments

*LD1404130893 Tehran IRNA in English 1241 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Kerman, April 14, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today termed it a "great mistake" for those in the White House to think that they could make the Iranian people frustrated from the Islamic revolution through propaganda and political maneuver.

Brushing aside global arrogance's accusations that Iran supported terrorism, he said "in a system of government which is backed by the will of people the most foolish thing one can do is to resort to terrorism.

"Did the Iranian people brought their revolution to triumph through terrorism, to resort to it now? The president questioned while addressing a large group of people in this southern provincial capital. [sentence as received]

He said anyone who sees such a multitudinous gathering of people in Kerman streets will admit that the Islamic revolution is still alive, dynamic and marching towards perfection.

"The jubilant faces of people on the streets show that they are satsified with their revolution and the path they have taken," the Hojjat ol-Eslam said.

He said those who speak in the name of democracy and masses witness such splendid scenes and people's massive turnout but still refuse to acknowledge that there is deep-rooted democracy in Iran.

"Does not democracy mean people's sovereignty? Isn't people's presence on the scene indicative of democracy? This applies in the best manner to Iran," he said.

Rafsanjani referred to global arrogance's unjust stance on Serbian crimes in Bosnia-Herzegovina and on the trampling of people's rights in Algeria, and said "this shows how cruelly global arrogance deals with the realities of the world and the Islamic revolution of Iran."

### Justification for Not Punishing Serbs 'Ridiculous'

*LD1504085793 Tehran IRNA in English 0831 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA—An English daily here Thursday described as the most ridiculous the justification by the Security Council that the U.S. and England believed any punitive measure against the Serbs would weaken Yeltsin's position against his opponents in Moscow.

The TEHRAN TIMES in its editorial said that "Yeltsin's opponents have accused him of having sold the Serbs—Russia's traditional allies in two world wars—to the West."

It wrote that "this is the most ridiculous logic that could have been presented. The war crimes being committed by the Serbs are quite obvious, and no passive silence and justification is acceptable."

The daily said "while the unbridled slaughter of the Muslims by Serbs continues, the mass media in the U.S. and England have raised a great deal of hue and cry about the aerial maneuvers by the NATO forces over the 'no-fly-zone' in Bosnia. Apparently they have forgotten that the Serbian rebels, relying on modern infantry in the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, are already in Bosnian territory and do not need aircraft to engage in the slaughter of the Muslims."

"The necessity of breaking up the arms blockade imposed on the Muslims has nothing to do with peripheral political consideraions. The Muslims in Bosnia are under the most ruthless and inhuman attacks and they have every right to possess the arms which they need for self-defence," it concluded.

### Ahmad Khomeyni Addresses Army Day Rally

*LD1504105793 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] In a glorious ceremony this morning, on the eve of Army Day on 29 Farvardin [18 April], the commanders, officials, and personnel of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces paid their respects to the great founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and renewed their allegiance to the sacred aspirations of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may God's blessing be upon him.

During this glorious ceremony, which was attended by Hojjat ol- Eslam val Moslemin Safa'i, the representative of the Supreme Juris- Consult [Vali-e Faqih] in the Armed Forces; Brigadier-General Shahbazi, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff; and the commanders of the three branches of the Armed Forces, a speech was made by Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni. He praised the valuable role of the commanders and personnel of the Armed Forces during the eight years of sacred defense [in the Iran-Iraq war], and elaborated on the current regional and international situation.

He ascribed the extraordinary use of pressure by the arrogant powers on the Islamic Republic to the Islamic revolution's spiritual and cultural influence among Islamic nations. He added: The world of arrogance has never so ruthlessly attacked our national and Islamic interests as it is doing today. Following the collapse of the Marxist system in the Eastern bloc, Islamism has become the biggest ideological force threatening the hegemony of the world- devourers.

Futher on in his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni described the islamic Republic's budget as the most nonmilitary budget in Asia. Referring to the huge military purchases of the other Middle East states, he stressed: The Arab states of the Persian Gulf have come to fear an imaginary danger due to the provocation of global arrogance. They therefore make huge military purchases in an aimless race.

Outlining the threats to the islamic states posed by the Zionist regime's weapons of mass destruction, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni warned those elements and governments which have joined the Zionist side in opposing the Islamic Republic or which are making vain territorial claims against Iran.

Concluding his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni called on the courageous Armed Forces and other armed forces of the country to prepare to defend the Islamic homeland and the achievements of the revolution by placing their faith in almighty God and in Islam.

Before Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni's speech, Brigadier-General 'Ali Shahbazi, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, made a brief speech in which he stressed the readiness of the commanders and personnel of the Armed Forces to defend the independence, territorial integrity, and achievements of the Islamic revolution.

### Egypt 'Failed' on Domestic, Regional Issues

*LD1304115693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1000 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Despite all the international propaganda and political support given to Egypt, the government has failed to control its domestic situation or to play a part in regional issues. [President Husni] Mubarak's trip to Washington last week and his meeting with U.S. President Clinton as well as trips by a number of regional leaders to Cairo—to activate the concession talks—indicate that the United States is determined to use all available means to support the Egyptian Government in its suppression of the domestic uprising.

Pointing to a number of facts, some analysts believe U.S. concern over the difficulties of the Mubarak government is similar to the crisis of the Shah's regime in the late 1970's. For one thing, it is possible to see the activities of the U.S. intelligence agency in finding ways of helping Mubarak. It is said that following Mubarak's trip to Washington, CIA Director James Woolsey went to Cairo to study the Egyptian situation in close quarters [in the hope] that the United States will not again in the 1990s witness the fall of an ally in the Middle East.

The Zionist regime is concerned with the restless conditions in Egypt and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is leaving for Cairo and a meeting with Mubarak.

Understanding the future of Egypt is futile and baseless without taking the deep Islamic beliefs of the people into account. Comprehensive efforts by the United States and the Zionist regime to save the Mubarak regime will not prevent the eruption of serious problems in Egypt, and recent events in Egypt indicate that the country is in need of internal reform. Emphasis on the regional role of Egypt and the repeated trips by its international supporters have resulted only in an increase in dissidence and clashes between the people and government forces.

### Training Camps for 'Arab Extremists' Reported

*PM1404153093 London AL-WASAT in Arabic 12 Apr 93 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "From Our Own Sources"]

[Text] Informed Egyptian Security sources say that, according to information they received from various sources, there are 2,300 Arabs in Pakistan who fought in the ranks of the Afghan Mojahedin in the war for the liberation of Afghanistan. The same information confirms the existence of five camps in Iran for the training

of "Arab extremists" including "Afghan Arabs" in the areas of Ahvaz, Abadan, and al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] in addition to two schools for "ideological" education in Qom and Mashhad. It adds that 1,240 Egyptian, Algerian, and Tunisian "extremists" have joined the Ahvaz camp which is supervised by Ahmad Mirzenda, the Iranian intelligence officer in charge of the region. The ideological school in Qom is supervised by Ali Asghar Mohammadi.

### Turkmen Official Meets Habibi, Velayati

*LD1404183293 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Tehran, April 14, IRNA—Turkmen Vice-President [Boris] Shikhmuradov in his talks with First Vice-President Hasan Habibi here today expressed Ashgabat's willingness to cooperate with Tehran in various fields such as oil, gas, commerce, agriculture, transportation and banking.

Habibi saw no obstacle in promotion of bilateral ties and said collaboration in the building of roads and railways and link between the two countries' sea ports are "the best means of broadening mutual ties".

Later in the day Shikhmuradov met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and exchanged views on upgrading of bilateral ties and regional cooperation.

"Iran enjoys priority and importance in Turkmenistan's foreign policy," said the Turkmen official who arrived here yesterday at the head of high-ranking delegation to attend the first ever Tehran- Ashgabat Joint Economic Commission.

To emphasise his point he said Iran is the only country with which Turkmenistan has held a joint commission, and voiced his satisfaction with the progress of the commission which he inaugurated this morning along with Iran's Road and Transport Minister Mohammad Sa'idi-Kia.

Velayati expressing hope that the commission would bear positive and fruitful outcomes.

The two officials explored ways of improving consular facilities and agreed to speed up opening of their respective consulates in Marv (East Turkmenistan) and Mashhad (Iran's Khorasan Province), as agreed earlier during Velayati's visit to Ashgabat.

Importance of regional cooperation and establishment of a council grouping the Caspian Sea's littoral states in particular were among the issues discussed.

### OPEC Discussion of Oil Import Tax Viewed

*NC1304063893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Unattributed commentary prepared by the Central News Unit's research group; from the "In the Margin of the News" feature]

[Text] The international seminar on the world's oil market will convene in Muscat today in the presence of the petroleum ministers of OPEC members and non-members. During the two-day seminar, the petroleum ministers of 25 oil-producing countries and oil experts will discuss problems concerning the environment, relations between oil-producing and oil-consuming countries, the world oil market, and prices.

Among the most important topics to be discussed during this seminar is the impact of tax on oil imports. The United States and Europe have been studying the plan for taxing energy products so that by introducing a new tax, they can decrease their countries' oil demand.

Economic experts believe that this plan—propounded on the pretext of helping to preserve the environment—will inflict a loss of $15 billion on the Persian Gulf oil-producing countries and spark off new fluctuations in the oil market. The experts believe that any move that may weaken oil trade will lead to a drop in investments in oil industries and that it is the West that will be concerned about ensuring its oil needs.

Sharp fluctuations in oil prices in recent decades proves that no country can guarantee its welfare at the cost of economic blows inflicted on others and that establishing an acceptable stability in the oil market depends on the cooperation of all the oil-producing and oil-consuming countries.

The energy-consuming countries in the West know that if oil prices drop, oil producers will have no motives for investment to ensure the security of oil exports or to ensure the energy-consuming countries' oil needs. But if stability is created in the oil market, the oil producers can help the West to meet its energy requirements through timely and sufficient oil deliveries. Thus, the vast sums spent to meet astronomic charges for strategic reserves can be used to improve the environment.

During their two-day talks in Muscat, the oil-producing countries will discuss the impact of tax on oil imports and ways to confront this policy. We think that understanding between the oil-producing and oil-consuming countries is the best way to ensure mutual interests. In the circumstances, the oil-producing countries should be able to find a suitable position in the global system and in the future structure of world power to increase hopes for stability and security based on understanding with energy consumers and joint policies.

### West Warned on Energy Tax

*LD1404204693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The oil ministers of 25 OPEC and non-OPEC member states, at the conclusion of their joint session in the Omani capital of Muscat, yesterday warned that in the event of the enforcement of the Western states'

decision to levy Energy Tax the international oil market will be destabilized. [passage omitted]

The main excuse brought by the Western states in justification of these decisions relates to the environmental observations, whereas these countries have not considered any tax for the coal whose consumption is far more polluting than oil for the environment. Moreover many scientists and experts believe that any improvement in the global environmental conditions will hinge on the improvement of the methods of consuming energy rather than a reduction in it. Further a major part of the community in the Third World is basically exposed to the threat of poverty and lack of development.

In this way it appears that main goal of the West in levying the Energy Tax goes beyond the environmental justification to the imposition of low oil prices on the oil producing states and acquisition of high prices for the ultimate users of oil so as to be able to transfer a major part of the incomes of the oil producing states to the exchequers of the Western governments.

It is indisputable that as a result of the enforcement of this plan those oil exporting states will rely most on income from oil exports will suffer maximum economic losses especially on the short term basis. But in the long run such pressures may compel the oil producing states to develop their petrochemical industries and to have less reliance on crude oil incomes.

Of course in such a situation the Western states too, both on short term basis, will sustain losses. The reason is that with the rise in the price of oil used by the Western industries and the cost of their products too will be hiked and at the same time, on account of a fall in the income of the oil producing states, the market of Western products will come across further stagnation.

In addition there will emerge one definite result on account of creation of economic constraints for the oil producing states in the form of a halt in their investments for the development of their production of their oil production levels. This issue, in view of growing demand for energy all over the world, is rated as a great danger for the global economy in future.

## Petroleum Minister Comments on OPEC Meeting

*NC1504084093 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] OPEC and non-OPEC countries met in Muscat this week to study the outlook of the world oil market and to coordinate their production policies. Environmental problems, as well as the problem of taxes that the major countries put on oil imports, were among the other issues discussed at the Muscat meeting.

Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i, who had gone to Muscat, spoke to our economic correspondent last night. Commenting on the outcome of the session and especially on the taxes levied by oil importers, he said:

[Begin Aqazadeh-Kho'i recording] All the members expressed their concern about the taxes levied by the oil-consuming countries. Also, with the low price of oil, and in view of the demands that will exist between the years 2000 and 2010, these taxes will not allow investment. Therefore, oil prices in the world market should improve.

One of the major achievements of this session was the formation of a joint OPEC-OAPEC [Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries] committee to study important problems in the world, such as taxes, and other issues that may arise. On the basis of this session's forecast, demand between the years 2000 and 2010 will increase. However, the main burden of meeting these demands will be on OPEC's shoulders, and non-OPEC members will have to invest much more to preserve their current production. This, in short, is what was discussed at the session. [end recording]

On the sidelines of the Muscat session, OPEC members held a meeting to study developments in the oil market. Commenting on this, the petroleum minister said:

[Begin Aqazadeh-Kho'i recording] This session was a good opportunity for OPEC to hold an unofficial meeting and to discuss production by OPEC members in the first month of the agreement—that is, March. The committee members chosen by OPEC—Libya, Qatar, and the OPEC Secretariat—tendered their assessment on production in March.

In view of comments in the foreign press on Iran's increased production, after the full and detailed explanation I gave about our production, export vessels, and domestic consumption, the session was fully convinced that Iran's production has been within its quota and that the comments in some of the newspapers are untrue.

Of course, in the members' official report, two countries showed some increased production. These two countries were Nigeria and Iraq. These two countries and all the others were seriously requested to regulate production both this month and next month to stay within the quotas.

Also, discussions were held on the sidelines of this meeting about our situation in the next session—on where oil demand stands, and other relevant issues. [end recording]

## Correction to Atomic Energy Series

*NC0904202793*

The following correction pertains to the item "Series Reviews Atomic Energy Organization" which appeared in the Near East and South Asia DAILY REPORT on Friday, 9 April, pp 44-45.

Page 44, second column, last paragraph to top page 45, first column, first partial paragraph, please make read: "...left the country after being exempted from completing their commitments for their grants from the organization. The allocations for..."; supplying dropped words.

Page 45, second column, seventh paragraph, only sentence, please make read: "...—Expanding 'film badge,' 'dosimeter,' and 'thermoluminescence' services..."; supplying dropped word.

## Nepal

### Further Reportage on Arrest of Journalists; Reaction

#### Communist Party Criticizes Arrests

*BK1404001693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1759 GMT 13 Apr 93*

[Text] Kathmandu, April 13 (AFP)—The Nepal Communist Party strongly criticized the government on Tuesday for arresting three prominent journalists for allegedly offending members of the royal family.

The publisher and editor of the pro-democracy weekly "REAWAKENING," Mathabar Singh Basnyet and Sarchadra Basti, and the publisher of the pro-Marxist weekly "VISION," Shambhu Shrestha, were arrested Sunday for making allegedly derogatory remarks against members of the royal family, a court source said.

The party said in a statement that the arrests of the three journalists had grossly violated freedom of speech.

The party also criticized the government for illegally arresting the journalists without handing over arrest warrants to them first.

"This act clearly shows the governments discriminatory and oppressive intentions," it said.

"Our party takes these arrests as a violation of freedom of speech and press and deplores the governments high handedness for using the law for its purposes," it added.

"We therefore want the journalists to be released immediately and the cases against them withdrawn," it added.

The Nepalese Press Act bars the publication of anything that might cause offence to the king and royal family members, though newpapers are allowed to criticize the elected government, its ministers or other senior Nepalese officials.

The journalists had been active in the popular movement to end the former partyless Panchayat system of government and restore multi-party democracy in Nepal in early 1990.

#### Journalists Released on Bail

*BK1504001893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1755 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Kathmandu, April 14 (AFP)—Three Nepalese journalists being tried for allegedly offending members of the royal family were released on bail Wednesday pending further legal proceedings, a district court source said.

The journalists, who are being tried under the State Offence Act, were released on bail of 60 dollars each, the source said.

The publisher and editor of the pro-democracy weekly "REAWAKENING," Mathabar Singh Basnyet and Sarachandra Basti, and the publisher of the pro-Marxist weekly "VISION," Shambhu Shrestha, were arrested Sunday for allegedly offending two members of the royal family in their publication.

REAWAKENING republished a photograph of Princess Shruti, 17, King Birendra's only daughter, with Indian film star Shalman Khan, and questioned the decency of a member of the Hindu royal family posing for a photograph with a Muslim actor.

The picture was first published in a local magazine last month, and a palace source said it was a gesture of encouragement to artists by the royal family.

VISION reprinted a few excerpts from a book entitled "Shopping for Buddhas" by Jeff Greenwald, a foreign writer who had allegedly implicated one of he king's brothers in drug trafficking, a source close to VISION said.

Though the book itself has been sold in most bookstores in Kathmandu since last year, it was not taken seriously by the palace and the government earlier.

A panel of lawyers pleaded on behalf of the journalists at the district court, defending their rights to comment in their newspapers without malice.

Publisher Basnyet said the royal family received funds that had been collected through taxes paid by the people, therefore the general public had every right to be informed about the activities of the royal family.

The Nepal Press and Act bars the publication of anything that might cause offence to the king and the royal family, and anyone found violating the act could be sentenced to three years in jail or a fine of 60 dollars, or both.

Newspapers are however allowed to criticize the elected government, its ministers or other senior Nepalese officials.

## Pakistan

### President Asks Premier To Solve National Problems

*BK1404142093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan at Aiwan-i-Sadr [president's house] in Islamabad today. They reviewed the pressing national and international problems facing the country. The meeting lasted for about two hours. The president urged the prime minister to undertake positive steps as early as possible to address effectively these problems to the satisfaction of the public's representatives and the people. The prime minister undertook to do so on the urgent basis and to report to the president with precise measures in this behalf.

### Ministers Say Political Situation To Improve

*BK1504083093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Apr 93*

[Text] Federal Ministers Elahi Bux Sumroo and Retired Lieutenant General Abdul Majid Malik have said that the president and the prime minister have held in-depth discussions on all matters and the current situation in the country. The federal ministers said that the government is moving in the right direction and it will continue to serve the people. They hoped that the general situation will soon improve and the system will continue as it is.

The leaders of the Pakistan Muslim League met at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad last evening and discussed the current situation. Among those who attended the meeting included Federal Ministers Abdul Majid Malik and Chaudhury Shujat Hussain, Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne, Khuda Mohammad Khan, Nissdar Mohammad Khan, Senator Abbas Shah, Mohammad Ali Khan Hoti, Raja Zaffarul Haq, and Haji Mohammad Nawab Khokar.

### Power Struggle at 'Point of No Return'

*BK1404114093 Islamabad THE NATION in English 14 Apr 93 p 6*

[Editorial: "Battle for Islamabad"]

[Text] Roedad Khan's resignation is a veritable signal that the power struggle in Islamabad has reached a point of no return. Despite being an Adviser to the Prime Minister [PM], the ex- bureaucrat was virtually the President's 'eyes and ears' in the Federal Cabinet, and his exit from the government marks the Presidency's formal severing of ties with the Nawaz Sharif Cabinet. In the wake of the Prime Minister's unceremonious retreat from the battlefield, one would have expected the so-called "truce" to last a little longer, but it seems it was only a one-sided cessation of hostilities and the President was not willing to bury the hatchet. Whether the PM's aides had misread the situation or were victims of self-deception, they have been more than keen to project that 'all was well' in Islamabad and business would go on as usual. Needless to say, Mian Nawaz Sharif has made a gross miscalculation, and, notwithstanding his unilateral ceasefire, he seems to have no option but to fight it out with the President. It is indeed unfortunate that a Prime Minister has to pay such a heavy price for trying to outgrow the role designed for him by the establishment. And though we are said to have bid farewell to authoritarian days we are yet stuck with 'palace intrigues' and 'bureaucratic machinations' to circumvent the democratic process and not let a popularly elected government stay in office for the full term. What the establishment's 'godfather' appears to have on his cards for Mian Nawaz Sharif is basically no different from what was meted out to Benazir Bhutto, albeit the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Co- Chairperson may have conveniently forgotten her summary dismissal. It hardly matters what mode of settling scores would ultimately be opted for, since in any case, whether it is an 'in-house coup' or 'dissolution of the National Assembly' it would be a manifestation of the establishment's traditional strategy of 'bullying and blackmailing'.

It the Prime Minister appears to have run out of options he is himself to blame for getting cold feet. Nevertheless, if he can still stand firm and face the challenge with dignity and honour, he would have, regardless of the outcome of the current round of battle for Islamabad, frustrated the design to instal a 'puppet' government through the backdoor. By all accounts, it may not yet be easy to manipulate a vote of no-confidence against the Prime Minister. But in case the worse comes to worst, and a stage-managed show of strength produces the establishment's desired results, the game would not be entirely lost for Mian Nawaz Sharif, since whatever alternative government is propped up by the establishment, it could barely survive in office once the scramble for top slots begins. And if the President chooses to repeat his August 1990 'Constitutional coup', let the popular verdict reverse his arbitrary decision. Nawaz Sharif should have enough self-assurance to face the electorate as a 'go-getter', rather than as a victim seeking popular sympathy for the wrong done to him by the establishment.

### Spokesman on Afghan Fighting, Peshawar 'Operation'

*BK1404161093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] All major factions in Afghanistan have started consultations to settle relevant matters pertaining to the formation of the cabinet after the visit of Foreign Secretary General Akram Zaki to Kabul. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that his visit was part of Pakistan's efforts to accelerate the implementation of the Islamabad accord.

Referring to reports of recent fighting in Kabul, the spokesman said that the fighting was not between Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party of Afghanistan] and

government troops, but between government troops and Hezb-e Wahdat [Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan].

Referring to the recent operation in Peshawar, the spokesman said that the operation has been carried out in accordance with the country's laws and it is aimed at scrutinizing the legal status of documents of foreign nationals living in the country. The spokesman said that the operation is in full conformity with national interests and human rights. He said that it is not Pakistan's policy to allow anyone to use Pakistani territory to carry out activities against any other country. He said that action will be taken against those illegally staying in Pakistan and they will have to leave Pakistan.

### Spokesman on Blast Suspects, Sharif-Rao Talks

*BK1404155193 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] The prime minister has expressed the hope that relations with India will be normalized after outstanding issues with that country are peacefully resolved. He said this while addressing the round table conference of investors in Islamabad today. Referring to his useful talks with the Indian prime minister in Dhaka recently, he said we agreed to end the tension.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Office spokesman has said that during his meeting with the Indian prime minister in Dhaka, the prime minister stressed the need for bilateral consultations so as to resolve the Kashmir issue. The prime minister expressed regret at the Indian leaders' recent statements condemning Pakistan. The spokesman said the prime minister had reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to cooperate with India in tracing the Bombay blast suspects, as requested by India. The prime minister had made a proposal that senior Pakistani and Indian security officers visit each other's countries and accelerate cooperation in this regard. However, India made no response in this regard, the spokesman said.

### Indian Forces Fire on Kashmir Protesters, 12 Dead

*BK1404150693 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 14 Apr 93*

[Text] Pakistan has condemned the escalated crackdown of Indian troops against Kashmiris and has urged the international community to immediately intervene in order to bring to an end the reign of terror let loose in occupied Kashmir. A Foreign Office spokesman briefing newsmen in Islamabad today said that the situation in Srinagar and other parts of occupied Kashmir has witnessed the unprecedented deterioration. He said Indian occupation forces are evidently executing the premeditated plan to physically annihilate Kashmiri people with a view to forcing them to give up their struggle for right of self-determination. Indian troops in their stepped up crackdown against Kashmiris are indulging in acts of arson, indiscriminate arrest and torture of innocent persons in detention. The spokesman said the world community must convince the Indian Government to rescind its futile attempts to coerce the Kashmiris into submission. He said the Kashmiris must be allowed to exercise their right of self-determination pledged to them by India and the international community through several resolutions of the UN Security Council.

Reports from occupied Kashmir say at least 12 people were martyred when Indian troops opened fire on a protest demonstration in Srinagar today. According to KMS [KASHMIR MEDIA SERVICE], hundreds of people defying curfew restrictions were on their way to Lal Chowk in Srinagar for protest rally. The routes leading to Lal Chowk were blocked and military and armored cars with machineguns set at jeeps patrolled the area in an attempt to stop the marchers from reaching the venue of the protest rally. Indian troops tried to stop the protesters on Jahangir Road. Facing tough resistance, the Indian troops opened fire in which 12 demonstrators embraced martyrdom. Another report says four people were killed in detention by Indian troops. Clashes between Indian troops and mojahedin have also been reported from various parts of the held valley. Six Indian troops were killed and four injured in the clashes which took place in Baramula, Badgam, Pampura, and Srinagar.

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